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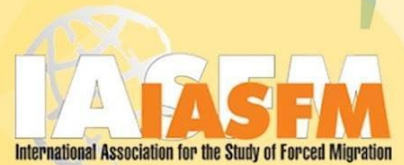
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IASFM20:
Forced Displacement in an Urbanizing World
Yogyakarta, Indonesia 21-23 January 2025

Book of Abstract

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CENTRE FOR REFUGEE STUDIES



Washington
University in St. Louis

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 12.00–12.45 WIB

Venue : GSP, 2nd Floor

Session : Creative Presentation Pitch

Quandaries of Refugee Protection: Ethical Responsibilities and Alternative Futures

Deepa Nagari (York University)

Format: Posters

This poster presentation examines the sentiments and narratives between the reactions to the 2021 Afghanistan and 2022 Ukraine–Russia crises. The questions framing this presentation are: How are our responses toward refugee displacements constructed? What stories of law, violence, and suffering are being told? What prevents us from truly engaging with the suffering of others, and how do our reactions vary with different refugee groups? Using the works of Judith Butler and Emmanuel Levinas, I explore humanity, violence, precariousness, grievability, and proximity concerning refugee knowledge, law, discourses, and policies. I connect this to media representations of the crises in Ukraine and Afghanistan to examine the differences in sentiments, narratives, and responses.

I find that although we feel an innate responsibility towards those fleeing persecution and violence and can, at a fundamental level, connect with “others,” society has constructed and portrayed certain refugees as precarious and grievable and has removed us from engaging with the ones who are not. When we are forced to contend with the violence that seems relatively “close to us,” “we” respond more aggressively, with more passion and anger. Ultimately, the general population and the media play an essential role in the “positive” construction of certain refugee groups, which garner effective policy, legal, and social responses. Thus, we must challenge the view that our ethical obligations only emerge within established communities or when we share the same race, ethnicity, language, or borders. Conclusion I conclude by arguing that we must look at alternative pathways to protection. Mainly bolster the interconnectedness of international organizations, government, and civil society groups. Civil society groups, advocacy groups, and grassroots organizations provide a path to decentering forced migration from the hegemony of international law and the current refugee protection regime (evident in law, politics, and refugee studies). Rather than viewing them as separate from our formal institutions, their practices should be examined to close the proximity with the “other.” Furthermore, engaging with these groups also recognizes that forced migrants and asylum seekers have the agency to determine policy and legal structures that affect them. This also broadens the understanding of what constitutes “political space” beyond the formally recognized decision-making spheres. Implications Forced migration laws and policies primarily focus on identifying refugees, determining who should shoulder refugee protection, and how the “burden” of protection should be distributed. However, the reliance and gaze just toward nation-states to protect the world’s refugee population is futile. These countries are sovereign and self-interested, deliberately choosing who is let in and who is not, and moving away from the hegemony of a completely state-centric protection regime is vital.

Thus, I aim to offer a pathway to new knowledge production, analyses, and approaches to responsibility, engagement, and governance within forced migration, bordering practices, and protection involving the community, society, the general population, and migrants.

Transitioning from Urban IDP Camps to Rural Life: Navigating the Loss of City Rights in Jaffna, Sri Lanka

Kopalapillai Amirthalingam (University of Colombo), Bharath Sundar (Fairmed), Ekanayake Anoji (Centre for Migration Research and Development), Nayani Suriyarachchi (Fairmed), Rajith Lakshaman (Institute of Development Studies)

Format: Posters

Fifteen years after Sri Lanka's emergence from a protracted civil war, the prospects for recovery remain fraught with challenges. The internal displacement and its enduring effects are among such challenge that the public officials, along with support from the non-governmental sector, is still grappling with. This poster presentation sits at the transition from a recently completed academic project on gendered displacement in Jaffna (funded by UK's GCRF) and a recently initiated implementation research (funded by Swiss STJF) focussing on psychosocial challenges of current and recently resettled/return IDPs in Jaffna.

While the majority of those displaced in the Jaffna district have returned or relocated, some IDPs—especially the last few families in welfare camp settings or those in rented accommodations in urban Jaffna—have so far not been able to make this transition. This study aims to explore specific household/community-level challenges which make this difficult as well as urban complications/delays in public administration and public health which is in the backdrop of all of these challenges.

The survey of 405 IDP households was conducted in Jaffna to examine the gendered experiences of protracted displacement. The survey results were triangulated with 13 in-depth interviews with internally displaced and 3 key informant interviews (KIIs) with village level public officials. These results from the first project are directly connected to those from the second which so far include kick-off meetings with public officials, a 10-day field visit in Jaffna. They showcase the complicated the operating environment encountered by public sector system-actors seeking to redress these.

Though IDPs are keen to be resettled back in their original homes in rural settings, there are notable differences between the old and the young. The young are anxious about losing urban jobs and convenient access to better provisioned public services in rural Jaffna. In urban camps, public schools and hospitals were in their easy reach, even if housing, water, sanitation, etc. was appalling. There is also concerning evidence that urban problems such as drugs and alcoholism are spreading complicating the resettlement process. Importantly there are enduring gender issues with female headed IDP families regularly reporting poor house completion. The public administrators for resettlement and public health officials for psychosocial emphasis urban specific issues like finding suitable land and coordination between various agencies as reasons for why some of these challenges persist.

The study highlights the specific challenges of resettling IDPs from urban to rural areas. While some will adapt to rural life others continue to face significant barriers, including financial constraints, lack of access to essential services, and the spread of urban social problems. These risk the sustainability of IDP return programs. Implications This research underscores the need for a more comprehensive approach to resettlement that addresses resettlement challenges but are sensitive to the facilities/services in urban areas which will be missed after return/resettlement.

Exploring the world through mini projects: a mixed-media showcase of youth refugees' critical reflections on societal issues

Nooryah Mudaber (*Emplace Initiative*), Risye Dwiyani and Akino Tahir (*Resilience Development Initiative*)

Format: Mixed-media Exhibition

Similar to their youth peers, young refugees also develop passions in particular fields and aspirations about the world and what they want to achieve. However, uncertainty and the challenge of finding nurturing environments for growth restrict their potential to shape these aspirations. Living in Indonesia as a place of transit, youth refugees face a number of barriers in pursuing livelihood opportunities for years, with no access to formal employment and limited access to education and self development. Most programs provided by international, local, and refugee-led organizations had been centred around primary and secondary education, leaving those above 17 years-old very limited opportunities to learn and grow as a curious young adult.

This proposal intends to explore a mentorship program for youth refugees designed and organized by a non-profit, research-based organization in Indonesia. The program was a 3-year pilot program initiated in 2022 and has just concluded in 2024. Thirteen young refugees joined the mentorship program, selected among more than 150 people applying within the 3 year duration. The program aims to build a sense of resilience in young refugees by equipping them with useful skills to adapt to different environments and life settings. The program consists of three building blocks: personal resilience building, literacy, and cross-cultural communication. In the literacy component, the mentees develop the ability to learn independently through a structured learning process of basic research literacy. It encompasses critical reading, writing, and 4presentation skills, as well as conducting a mini research project to apply these acquired skills. Experienced mentors, including several who are refugees themselves, provided guidance to participants throughout the program. In this proposal, we want to show and explore the process and reflections from the program participants through a mixed-media showcase of the mini research project outcomes under the literacy building block. While the mini research project applies a slightly different approach every year, it maintains its primary focus on fostering critical thinking, formulating research questions, sourcing credible references, exercising critical reading, engaging with professionals in relevant fields, gathering and analyzing data, and sharing findings. Guided by experienced mentors, participants explored a broad array of research topics, including human development (gender in sports, women's voices, youth development, and parenting), environmental issues (food choices, animal rights, e-bikes, bio-toilets, light pollution, wastewater, and solar panels), as well as architecture and digital marketing. The various forms of their research artifacts are integrated into this showcase.

Participant feedback is collected through pre- and post-tests, one-on-one reflection sessions during the program, as well as 6 months and 12 months after the program is completed. All mentees consistently reported an enhanced level of confidence in sharing knowledge and in interacting with people as a result of the process they went through in the mini research project and the overall literacy sessions. Several participants highlighted gaining a deeper understanding of themselves and the societal issues that they have not had the opportunities to explore prior to the program. Participants also acknowledged how the experience has helped and motivated them to pursue their academic activities and careers after the program, despite the obstacles in accessing formal education. Overall, the mini project experience demonstrates the young refugees' thoughtful exploration of the broader societal issues, beyond refugee-centric topics. The displayed research artifacts serve as a tool of empowerment, affirming their worth and potential to shape their own narratives and advocate for change across various societal issues. Given the opportunity and guidance to think critically, youth refugees who are denied formal learning opportunities in their

earlier life can still grow and pursue their aspirations and contribute in advancing our collective knowledge of the world.

‘Stories of forced displacement and the role of education in shaping routes to belonging’

Rebecca Murray (University of Sheffield), Daniel Mutanda (University of Exeter), Natalia Bowdoin (University of South Carolina)

Format: Mixed-media Exhibition

The IASFM ‘Education, Displacement and (Im)mobility’ research cluster invites you to join a creative event hosted by Rebecca Murray, Daniel Mutanda, Natalia Bowdoin, members of the ‘Growing Leaders’ programme and ‘(Re)imagining the Higher Education Border’ project researchers. The ‘Education, Displacement and (Im)mobility’ IASFM research cluster is comprised of an international group of academics, practitioners and advocates working across a diverse range of countries and contexts, exploring the role of education in responding to the needs and aspirations of people who have experienced forced displacement. The research cluster was recently formed at the end of 2023 and membership is growing – we welcome anyone, from any country or background to join us in developing new ideas, research and practice that engages in the connections between education and displacement. This welcome event is an opportunity to learn more about the research cluster, meet members present at the conference and those contributing from afar. We invite you to learn more about our work and help us to shape our future trajectory.

‘Stories of Displacement’ will showcase creative projects focused on the power of access to education and training in overcoming challenges in navigating different cultural expectations to integrate into new environments, produced by young people with histories of displacement in the UK and US: ‘(Re)imagining the Higher Education Border’ (UK) peer researchers undertaking UK- based projects focus on access, welcome and protection in higher education and; ‘Growing Leaders’ (US), a diverse group of resettled refugee youth engaging in a variety of creative projects exploring the meaning of integration, cultural, and social justice issues as they prepare for tertiary education within an urban resettlement site. Over the course of the last two years, the participants in the Growing Leaders program have been actively contributing to knowledge creation and representation of diverse refugee voices by engaging in personal and collective storytelling using photography and film and other collaborative creative arts projects. Through these projects they have explored such issues as: food scarcity and food justice, access to education, cultural identity and expectations, the meaning of “home” and “third culture” identity. Issues identified through the exploration of barriers and opportunities for integration within the resettlement country, as these urban resettled refugee youth stand on the brink of their transition journey from secondary to tertiary education. ‘Seeking Sanctuary in Higher Education’ is a participatory creative arts-based project led by researchers who have sought sanctuary and are current leaders in the ‘(Re)imagining the Higher Education Border’ project.

A of series of short stories are relayed through images to communicate: (1) why opportunities to study and work in higher education are so challenging to access yet play a vital role in the lives of people seeking sanctuary and (2) how staff and students across universities can take individual and collective action to ensure that universities are accessible, safe and welcoming place for people seeking sanctuary. Stories shared across two different continents have been collated to produce an interactive creative presentation – using a variety of arts-based methods: cartoon strips, drawings, graphic novels, photovoice and videography. It is through this presentation we centre the voices of displaced youth. We explore what we can collectively learn from the heterogeneous experiences of people hailing from a diverse range of countries, migration histories and current immigration status (ranging from resettled refugees to those in the process of seeking asylum) about the role of education and training in their lives, situated in the challenges and opportunities encountered in their

diverse contexts. In doing so we explore experiences that stretch beyond territorial and institutional borders.

“Fleeing the War across Oceans”: Using Photovoice with Ukrainian Displaced People in Western Australia

Jaya Dantas and Tetiana Bogachenko (Curtin University)

Format: Photovoice exhibition

Abstract at Panel 14, Parallel Session 2 (Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB, Room 4, 304)

The Pen and The Path: Literary Community and the Role for Advocacy

Nur Ade Irawan (Semut Merah Kaizen)

Format: Mixed-media Exhibition

Abstract at Panel 35, Parallel Session 4 (Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB, Room 5, 307)

Shackled in motion: Following the harm-chain of climate migration in Bangladesh using photo-ethnography

Tasnia Prova and Era Robbani (BRAC University), Tahura Farbin (University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh)

Format: Posters

Abstract at Panel 64, Parallel Session 7 (Thursday, 23 January 2025, 13.45–15.15, Room 4, 304)

Journey to Wellness: the co-creation of an intervention for forced migrant women

Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham), Amy Daniel (University of Aberystwyth), Sheva Martin (Baobab Women's Project)

Format: Film

Abstract at Panel 45, Parallel Session 5 (Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB, Room 5)

Short Movies : "Understanding Rohingya Camp Challenges", "A Refugee's Journey: 15 Years in Limbo", and "Dismantling Myths: The Rohingya Story"

Lars Stenger (Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network)

Format: Short movies

"Understanding Rohingya Camp Challenges" (4 minutes)

Khair Ullah

An urgent first-hand account from a Rohingya researcher examining the deteriorating conditions in Cox's Bazar refugee camps. The documentary provides critical insights into multiple crises facing the community, including healthcare shortages, limited economic opportunities, and rising social issues like child marriage and human trafficking. Environmental challenges compound these problems, creating an increasingly precarious situation for camp residents. The speaker's personal connection to the community adds depth to this compelling call for immediate action and support.

"A Refugee's Journey: 15 Years in Limbo" (5 minutes)

Ali Reza Yawari

A powerful testimony from a Hazara refugee who fled Afghanistan as a teenager, offering a stark portrayal of refugee life in Indonesia. The film illuminates the challenging reality faced by over 12,000 refugees who live without basic rights or work opportunities. While highlighting some educational progress, the documentary underscores the severe impact of prolonged displacement on mental and physical wellbeing, making a compelling case for humanitarian intervention and policy change.

"Dismantling Myths: The Rohingya Story" (5 minutes)

Speaker: Hafsar and Yasmin

An essential educational piece that confronts and corrects widespread misinformation about the Rohingya community circulating on social media across South and Southeast Asia. Through careful presentation of historical facts and cultural context, the video challenges common misconceptions while highlighting the genuine struggles faced by the Rohingya people, fostering greater understanding and empathy.

The lived experience of women seeking asylum in Australia: Photographic encounters

Mireille Kayeye (University of Melbourne)

Format: Photo exhibition

This creative work showcases photographs from a photovoice project with seven women who are seeking asylum and living in Melbourne, Australia. The project aims to empower participants to directly represent themselves and bear witness to their asylum journey while raising awareness to their situations and highlighting issues of concern. Through analysis of visual data, photographs workshops, interviews, conversations, four key themes emerged and involve 1) living in limbo; 2) family and motherhood; 3) wellbeing and practices of self-care and 4) spaces of welcome.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 1
Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 1

Border Externalisation: Critical Global Perspectives (Part 1)

Dr Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli (University of Sheffield)

Dr Natalia Cintra (University of Southampton)

Externalisation is a strategy whereby States instigate measures beyond their own territorial borders in order to prevent or deter the entry of migrants who lack the requisite legal entry permission, many of whom are thought likely to apply for asylum, stay irregularly or apply for 'complementary' pathways. There are many examples of States using externalisation as a means of immigration/asylum management, most of which based on South–North movements and on the Global North's attempts to move their migration controls further away, particularly to Global South's territories, as is the case of Turkey, Libya, Mexico, Guatemala and Nauru, to name a few. This reiterates a long-established pattern of global power dynamics between the Global North and South in which the latter concentrates the unwanted migrants of the former. It also creates an assumption that externalisation is a border control technology exclusively applied by Global North countries. Conversely to this, this panel aims to challenge this inaccurate assumption, by focusing on immigration/asylum controls and management beyond the Global North: such as in South–South movements that engage in externalisation technologies, particularly as routes to the Global North become more dangerous and costly, and innovative conceptual lens to analyse externalisation in the Global North and the power relations between these two regions. At stake is not only the duty of States to ensure their asylum policies are in line with their international obligations but also the protection of forcibly displaced people. The six papers in this panel critically discuss externalisation considering gender, race, health, colonial legacies and climate migration. The authors come from many parts of the world and consider externalisation in Latin America, South–Africa, United States of America, Germany and the United Kingdom, European Union and third partners. Finally, this panel reflects on a myriad of ways that externalisation is implemented such as visas, chain–externalisation, biopower, affective power, gender discourses and securitisation of climate migration which contribute to develop the discussion on externalisation by bringing diverse voices, disciplines and perspectives.

Wall of Visas: How Race Impacts the Externalisation of (Forced) Migration Control in South–South corridors of Migration Brazil

Natalia Cintra (University of Southampton), Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli (University of Sheffield)

Externalisation is the process where countries use different strategies to extend their borders beyond their territorial limits. The media and literature have called attention to the externalization strategies of so-called 'developed countries', such as agreements between the European Union and Turkey, the United Kingdom and Rwanda and the Australian policies to stop the boats. Externalisation practices of 'developing countries', however, not only are understudied, but they are also normally implemented differently, with a greater use of visas as a hidden type of and more cost-effective externalisation strategy. Moreover, there is little research on whether or not these countries' externalisation practices are racially determined. In this paper, we hope to partly fill this gap, by studying the case of Brazil, and we demonstrate how it uses humanitarian visas for Haitians and family reunification visas for refugees (mainly Sub-Saharan Africans) as an externalisation strategy to control the (forced) migration of racialised people to Brazil. We draw from thematic analysis of Brazilian legislation,

minutes from decision-making meetings on asylum policies and diplomatic correspondence obtained in archival research. We conclude by showing that, despite having a liberal migration policy based on human rights, which includes supposedly 'welcoming' visas, Brazil's visa policies instead function as an important externalisation strategy which operates as a metaphorical 'racial wall', keeping racialised (mainly black) (forced) migrants out, and preventing them from receiving protection in the country.

Gender order of asylum in the Global North

Marija Grujić (European University Viadrina)

What is the gender order governing asylum in the Global North? How are asylum applicants and refugees perceived within arrival infrastructures and technologies of assessments and protection governing in reception and accommodation emplacements? I am responding to these questions in my presentation based on the ongoing qualitative research in two European host societies – Germany and the UK. These states have an active media presence and are leading the dominant politics on Global North's states' responsibilities on refugee protection and outsourcing of obligations to assess applicants. They also exemplify how international and national stakeholders aim to make asylum conditions gender sensitive and provide protection that considers asylum applicants' vulnerabilities. My paper aims to provide critical perspectives on how such gender mainstreaming engages with colonial legacies; gender, race and class intersections and leads to internal externalisations.

Chain-Externalisation in Migration Management

Gamze Ovacik (McGill University Faculty of Law)

This proposed contribution focuses on a new conceptualization that will be referred to as "chain externalisation" in migration management which is the dynamic where policies for externalization originating from Global North are mirrored in the Global South countries that such policies target towards other Global South countries. The tools for externalising migration control such as safe country practices, outsourcing of refugee processing, carrier sanctions, restrictive visa policies and other forms of externalisation of border control are replicated by the countries affected by them, to conduct further externalisation creating a chain dynamic. This serves as a coping strategy for the South to ease the pressure increased by externalisation and is often encouraged by the North as well, in an attempt to ensure containment of asylum and migration flows in the farthest distance possible. Whereas the EU-Turkey context, characterized by intense efforts for externalisation and high volume of human mobility, will be used to showcase the phenomenon, the chain-externalisation concept serves as a potential framework for other geographical contexts as well. The first example where this dynamic plays out is the comprehensive legislative reform conducted in Turkey in 2014 with extensive support from the EU, resulting in exporting of the EU externalisation tools such as carrier sanctions and safe country practices through norm diffusion.

The second example is execution of readmission agreements with source countries increasingly after the execution of the EU-Turkey Readmission Agreement in 2013, as an effort to shift the burden away. The final example is visible in the EU's pressure on Turkey to abandon its long-standing liberal visa policy.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB

Venue : Room 2

Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 2

Resettlement of Refugees in the Global North: Reflections on Welcoming

Jill Hanley and Nicole Ives (McGill School of Social Work, Montreal)

When people are forced to flee their homes due to persecution or conflict, they too often find themselves in protracted limbo. Opportunities to resettle permanently can offer the possibility for security, stability and increased options for the future. In this panel, we explore the issue of community welcome for (re)settled refugees, taking into consideration: state, non-profit and faith based support for resettlement; eligibility for different supports; and settlement outcomes in terms of health and employment. After the paper presentations, the panel will invite discussion with participants about their own experiences supporting refugee resettlement.

Intersectoral Collaboration in Support of Resettled Refugees: challenges working across institutional barriers

Nicole Ives and Jill Hanley (McGill School of Social Work, Montreal)

This paper addresses the many sectors that need to collaborate in order to ensure the best outcomes for resettled refugees: for example, housing; healthcare; education; language training; employment. In order for resettled refugees to be able to integrate into their new communities – “settling” in both the physical and the psychosocial sense – these different elements need to be addressed. Drawing on their more than 15 years of empirical research related to different groups of refugees, both in the US and in Canada, the authors present in this paper their analysis of the most common barriers and facilitators of intersectoral collaboration. They begin with an overview of the literature on intersectoral collaboration related to refugees in general, before presenting the qualitative case study methods used in projects in Quebec and in New York State. Findings related to: competitive financing; legal restrictions on mandates; duplication of services; differing political orientations; role of personalities; and shifting policies will be explored as they help or impede the support for refugee resettlement. We conclude with a discussion of best practices for intersectoral collaboration for refugee rights and wellbeing.

Role of Leadership within Mosques for Refugee Resettlement

Izzul Haq (UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta & McGill School of Social Work)

This paper addresses the limited scholarly evidence on the nature of mosques in terms of their engagement with refugee resettlement programs. The underrepresentation of mosques in the discussion of religious congregations' involvement in refugee resettlement deserves scholarly attention to dig deep into mosques' engagement process, which can be emulated to other typical mosques as a prominent representative of Muslim civic engagement in immigration policy. In addition, there is inadequate knowledge of how the leadership within mosques towards the completion of refugee sponsorship is exercised and practiced amidst their engagement in sponsoring, welcoming, and assisting refugees in integrating with broader society. The analysis presented in this paper sheds light on what model mosques could follow to accommodate the needs

of newly resettled refugees, work best with government policies, and collaborate with other stakeholders in immigration policy, mainly refugee resettlement. Based on an ethnographic methodology, this case study explores Dorval mosque's refugee sponsorship and the role of leadership within it. The exploration tries to encapsulate the detailed entry into the complex tasks of refugee resettlement provided by Dorval mosque as a part of the mosaic of Muslim congregations in Montreal. The growth of Muslims as a religious minority group in Canada has encircled and centred around mosques, symbols of their visibly expanding community; understanding mosques' involvement in refugee resettlement provides perspective on their connections with and contributions to wider society.

Social Determinants of Health for Resettled Refugees: Social and Material Condition and Physical Wellbeing in a New Home

Godfrey Mahkota (McGill School of Social Work)

Due to an escalated Syrian civil war that started in 2011, the Canadian government committed to accepting approximately 25,000 Syrian Refugees between November 2015 and February 2016. Through its major refugee resettlement programs, Government Assisted Refugees (GAR) Privately Sponsored Refugees (PSR), and Blended Visa Office Referred Refugees (BVOR), the Canadian Government allowed Syrian refugees to resettle in different provinces and cities across Canada. However, The Syrian refugees were exposed to a host of challenges, including housing, social isolation, language barriers, and difficulty securing employment during their resettlement and integration into a new environment. Depending on the nature of the environment, refugees will have different experiences with material and psychosocial conditions, which makes them vulnerable to poor physical health. Hinged on the social determinations of health, this paper draws on the longitudinal data collected between April 2017 and 2019 to examine the impact of material and psychosocial conditions on self-reported physical health among Syrian refugees resettled in Canada. The result revealed several significant predictors of self reported physical health. Notably, feeling somewhat safe in the community was associated with decreased odds of being physically compared to feeling completely safe (OR = 0.56, $p = 0.022$, 95% CI [0.35, 0.88]). Conversely, housing affordability emerged as a significant predictor, with respondents living in affordable housing having higher odds of being physically healthy than those in expensive housing (OR = 1.53, $p = 0.032$, 95% CI [1.04, 2.25]). Additionally, education level showed a significant association with physical health status, where respondents with low (OR = 2.30, $p < 0.001$, 95% CI [1.46, 3.62]), moderate (OR = 2.05, $p = 0.022$, 95% CI [1.11, 3.78]), and high (OR = 2.28, $p = 0.003$, 95% CI [1.32, 3.95]) education levels had higher odds of being physically healthy compared to those with very low education levels. Furthermore, respondents who did not report having eaten less due to insufficient food in the past year had significantly higher odds of being physically healthy compared to those who did report such experiences (OR = 2.44, $p < 0.001$, 95% CI [1.61, 3.70]). These results suggest that structural and intermediate determinants of health, including the feeling of safety, housing affordability, education level, and experiences of food insecurity, are significant predictors of self-reported physical health among Syrian refugees two years after resettlement in Canada.

Enhancing Refugee Integration: Insights and Recommendations from Community Sponsorship and Complementary Pathways in Europe.

Gabriella D'Avino and Marisol Reyes-Soto (University of Birmingham)

With the number of forced migrants more than doubling in the last decade, the need for expanding and developing additional durable solutions and integration support mechanisms has intensified. Alongside resettlement, voluntary repatriation and local integration, the Global Compact on Refugees recognised Community Sponsorship (CS) and Complementary Pathways (CP) as additional solutions, offering refugees the opportunity to relocate from often low- and middle- income countries to Western countries. A key characteristic of CS and CP is the involvement of private and community actors in welcoming and supporting refugees through their integration processes. In less than ten years, over twenty countries have developed such initiatives. CS and CP have been found to facilitate more effective integration than traditional resettlement programmes due to the emotional and personal support provided to sponsored refugees. New research and evaluations of the outcomes of CS and CP in Europe have emerged in recent years. This article draws on data from two long-term projects. The first focuses on the post-resettlement experiences of sponsored refugees in the UK, and the second draws on data from evaluations of CS and CP in six European countries – Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy and Spain – and interviews with strategic stakeholders as part of the SHARE Quality Sponsorship Network (QSN) project. Using a comparative approach, the study contributes to a better understanding of the benefits of a multi-stakeholder approach, involving collaboration between public and private actors, in addressing power imbalances in refugee relations and overcoming integration challenges. The findings suggest that although sponsored refugees receive tailored and often emotional support, structural challenges persist that private and community actors alone cannot overcome. The study highlights that CS and CP initiatives are most effective when sponsors' support complements the assistance provided by professional caseworkers. For the long-term sustainability of CS and CP programmes, government funding is essential to ensure refugees' access to services, reduce the financial burden on volunteers, and enable sponsors to focus on providing socio-cultural and emotional support. Such partnerships are vital for the successful expansion of CS and CP programmes, ensuring that the responsibility for refugee support does not shift entirely from the state to private actors. The studies highlight best practices and challenges in CS and CP programmes, providing recommendations for governments, third-sector organisations, and volunteers, aiming to enhance the integration outcomes of CS and CP beneficiaries in Europe. These recommendations can also serve other stakeholders interested in promoting and developing similar initiatives in different national and regional contexts.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB

Venue : Room 3

Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 3

Global Agenda: State and Protection

IASFM20 New Panel 1

Rural and regional refugee settlement: an emerging alternative?

Karen Block (University of Melbourne), Natascha Klocker, Melissa Phillips, Lauren Carpenter, Paul Hodge, Bernard Kelly-Edwards

While continuing to pursue harsh policies of deterrence aimed at dissuading ‘unauthorised’ arrival of people seeking asylum, the Australian government also undertakes refugee resettlement in cooperation with UNHCR. Moreover, it has recently committed to a modest increase in places, up to 20,000 for its 2024–25 humanitarian program. As part of this program, a proportion of those resettled are placed in, or move to, regional and rural Australian towns. Amid a persistent politicisation of refugee movements and migration more broadly, public and political discourse often ‘blames’ migrants for pressure on housing and other infrastructure in large and growing urban centres. In contrast, regional and rural towns are commonly dealing with shrinking and aging populations and therefore welcome new entrants to the labour market. Regional settlement thus becomes an appealing proposition for governments looking to boost regional productivity and appease voter angst in the cities. The aim of ‘Settling Well in Regional Australia’ is to understand the experiences of people from refugee backgrounds who live in regional towns and the impacts on regional settlement communities. It is also investigating how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities feel about and experience the arrival and settlement of people from refugee backgrounds. The project comprises a 5-year, longitudinal, mixed-method and multi-sited approach to generate new knowledge of the opportunities and challenges for sustainable regional settlement and how best to support individual and community wellbeing. Using a participatory methodology, university-based researchers from four universities are working collaboratively with regionally based bilingual community researchers from a range of refugee backgrounds across six sites in three Australian states. Project funding is also supporting PhD students from refugee backgrounds.

This paper presents findings following analysis of the first wave of data. This includes in-depth interviews with 180 people from refugee backgrounds and 115 other stakeholders and more than 600 surveys with people from refugee backgrounds representing 25 countries of birth. Surveys and interviews indicated that most participants from refugee backgrounds felt regional settlement was a good option for their early years in Australia. Lower costs for housing and greater availability of employment opportunities were reported benefits. Many also enjoyed a sense of safety and community, the relative peace, lack of congestion, and opportunities to engage in farming and grow cultural foods that small towns offered. The majority intended to remain in their current location long term. Some however, envisioned relocating to larger cities for enhanced higher education opportunities for their children and/or because they needed to access particular services not available in rural and regional areas. A relative lack of services, including tailored English language tuition, specialist health and migration services, and public transport remained a challenge across sites. Interim findings from the project have generated early recommendations including the need to adjust settlement service funding models to match regional settlement needs. Further engagement with Indigenous traditional custodians is also vital.

Indonesia's Persistent Reluctance Acceding to the 1951 Refugee Convention: 'transit country' narrative, silo mentality, and colonial history

Bilal Dewansyah (Leiden University)

This paper addresses factors contributing to the non-accession of the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol common in major hosting countries in the Global South. Although there is a body of research on this topic, the rationale behind their lack of accession is not completely clear. The explanations include Eurocentrism in drafting the convention, fear of increased social and economic burdens, and differing experiences of refugeehood. However, much of the research on this topic has been based on general observations about the creation of international refugee law, and observational comparisons of dominant region and state narratives. Limited attention has been paid to the internal dynamics of individual states, and the engagement of actors in domestic politics with the international refugee regime. This paper aims to address this gap by drawing on empirical research into non-accession, taking Indonesia as a case study. Utilizing document analysis together with interviews with officials from the Indonesian government, UNHCR, and civil society organizations, this paper puts forward three main factors contributing to Indonesia's reluctance to accede to the instruments of international refugee law. Firstly, accession is not favored due to the narrative of Indonesia as a transit country for refugees seeking sanctuary in a third country. Secondly, a 'silo mentality' among government agencies impedes decision making and implementation. Thirdly, an anti-foreign sentiment linked to Indonesia's colonial history pervades.

Statelessness Among Malaysian Indians: Historical Roots, Contemporary Challenges, and Pathways to Citizenship

Valatheeswaran Chinnakkannu (Universiti Brunei Darussalam)

The issue of statelessness among the Indian community in Malaysia is deeply rooted in a complex interplay of historical, social, and political factors. This study aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the multifaceted dimensions of statelessness faced by Malaysian Indians, focusing on their historical origins, the evolution of citizenship laws, contemporary challenges, and potential solutions. Historically, the Indian community in Malaysia has primarily comprised Tamils, who migrated during the British colonial era to work in the mining and plantation sectors. Harsh working conditions and a lack of awareness regarding the importance of citizenship documentation characterized this migration. Consequently, many Indian plantation workers did not register births or marriages, resulting in subsequent generations being born stateless. The introduction of Malaysia's citizenship laws post-independence further complicated the situation for many Indians. These laws required documentation that many Indian families did not possess, effectively rendering them stateless. Despite meeting nationality requirements outlined in the Federal Constitution, the lack of proper documentation prevented these individuals from obtaining citizenship. The issue of statelessness persisted across generations, with estimates indicating that there were 40,000 stateless Indians in Malaysia in 2014, a number that reduced to 10,068 by 2017. The consequences of statelessness are severe and widespread, impacting various aspects of life. Stateless individuals face significant barriers in accessing education, as government schools require proof of birth certificates or identity cards for admission. This situation often leaves private education as the only option, which is financially inaccessible for many families, thereby perpetuating cycles of poverty. Healthcare access is another critical issue, with stateless individuals unable to receive essential medical services in government hospitals due to the lack of legal documents. They often resort to costly private clinics or home births, further complicating their legal status. Employment opportunities for stateless individuals are restricted to the informal sector, where they are vulnerable to exploitation, unsafe working conditions, and lack of legal recourse. Additionally, the absence of citizenship prevents them

from participating in political processes or travelling freely, compounding their social and economic marginalization. The legal framework in Malaysia categorizes stateless persons as illegal immigrants, further stigmatizing them and restricting their access to essential services. Efforts to address this issue have included the Malaysia-India Blueprint 2017, which proposed a faster permit system for eligible Indians. International organizations, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), have also been involved in finding solutions for the stateless community. Comprehensive legal reforms are essential to address the underlying causes of statelessness. Strengthening birth registration systems, streamlining citizenship procedures, and creating pathways to regularization are critical measures. By promoting inclusivity and improving access to education and healthcare, Malaysia can work towards breaking the cycle of statelessness and fostering a more equitable society.

Keywords: Migration, Statelessness, Citizenship. Human Rights, UNHCR

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 4
Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 4

Global Agenda: Border and Migration I

IASFM20 New Panel 2

Polish–Ukrainian border as a place of migratory trajectories co-production for displaced Ukrainians

Anastasiia Mykolenko (Université de Montréal)

Since February 2022, millions of displaced Ukrainians have crossed the border into Poland in search of temporary asylum. Up to 50,000 newcomers have been arriving daily in the small Polish border town of Przemysl. This sudden influx transformed Przemysl into the epicenter of Europe's largest humanitarian crisis since World War II, accommodating thousands of Ukrainians and hundreds of volunteers from around the world. Przemysl's tranquil and peaceful life was disrupted by the abrupt emergence of improvised bus stops and refugee centers, repurposing former city theaters, churches, schools, gyms, and even supermarkets. This paper delves into how this humanitarian infrastructure was organized and evolved over the past year, as well as its profound impact on the town of Przemysl itself. I analyze the transformation of the Polish border town into what Marc Augé refers to as a "non-place" and Michel Foucault describes as a "heterotopia" over the past year. I propose that Przemysl represents a site where migratory trajectories are co-produced, as arriving Ukrainians often lack a clear destination. Information about conditions in potential European destinations, as well as opportunities for free transportation and lodging, becomes the most valuable currency in this context, making Przemysl a crucial hub for the exchange of such information between volunteers and Ukrainians. My findings are drawn from a year-long fieldwork study in Przemysl, which included participant observation and semi-structured interviews with displaced Ukrainians and volunteers. This research sheds light on the intricate dynamics of the humanitarian ecosystem in Przemysl and its pivotal role in shaping the migratory trajectories of displaced Ukrainians.

"We are Here Because You Destroyed our Countries": Europe Refugee Crisis' from the perspective of Berlin's Refugee Movement

Nell Gabiam (Iowa State University)

As noted by others, with the signing of 1951 Refugee Convention the identity 'refugee' became separated, at least in a legal sense, from the general category of 'migrant', a separation justified through the imperative to protect those fearing persecution (Crawley and Skleparis 2019; Long 2013). However, a majority of scholars now believe that the current legal definition of a refugee is either too arbitrary or narrow in terms of legitimizing the experiences of the majority of people who are nowadays forcibly displaced from their country of residence and who seek asylum in another country. Central to ethical debates about forced migration is the question "who is a refugee and what are the moral responsibilities of states to such people?" (Gibney 2016: 48). In this presentation, I wish to weigh in on the above question by drawing on fieldwork I have conducted over the last ten years on the Syrian refugee crisis and its repercussions in the Middle East and in Europe. For the purposes of this presentation, I draw on moments in my fieldwork that speak to the intersection between the experiences of refugees from war-torn Syria who sought asylum in Europe around the time of Europe's

2015–2016 “refugee crisis,” and the experiences of other asylum seekers during this time. In my presentation, I propose to revisit Europe’s “refugee crisis” by taking into account not just the experiences of the hundreds of thousands who were displaced from Syria and sought asylum in Europe, but also the experiences of individuals and groups from other parts of the Middle East or from Africa and South Asia, who were also seeking asylum in Europe around the time of the Syrian refugee crisis. More specifically, I propose to analyze Europe’s 2015–2016 “refugee crisis” from the perspective of Berlin’s refugee rights movement, a movement that emerged in 2012 and that, while diverse, was led by asylum seekers from Sub-Saharan Africa. Drawing on Berlin’s Refugee rights movement’s activities and website, publications from members of the movement and from academics, and news articles, I reflect on the insights, including methodological ones, that are gained by analyzing Germany’s 2015–2016 welcome policy that largely benefited refugees from Syria through the discourse of those who have struggled to be recognized as legitimate asylum seekers in Germany. I show that the discourse of Berlin’s Refugee Rights Movement forces us to contend with the ways in which international migration policy operates through the separation and hierarchization of migrants, which disadvantages both those migrants who are deemed deserving of refugee status and those who are not. This discourse also compels us to draw connections between refugees and other categories of oppressed people.

Savage Deterrent: The Social Conditions of Australia’s Warehoused Refugees in Indonesia

William Westerman (New Jersey City University)

For over ten years, the Australian government has designated Indonesia as one of the countries in its “Pacific Solution,” paying the Indonesian government, as it has with Nauru and Papua New Guinea, to hold asylum-seekers attempting to reach Australian territory. As a deterrent, the Australian government declared that no one attempting to reach Australia by sea would ever be granted asylum or resettlement there. More than 15,000 have been held by this Australian policy in Indonesia, with Australia paying the Indonesian government and the IOM for their maintenance. Not a refugee convention signatory, Indonesia has not permitted the refugees to apply for asylum, receive residence, work, marry, or attend school. For years, many, including unaccompanied minors, were held for up to six years or more in detention centers in prison-like conditions, only later released to camps and “accommodation centers,” but with the threat of arrest and return to detention for any infraction of the rules. This paper will discuss social conditions for these refugees, the majority Afghan, who have been held for up to twelve years in detention centers, makeshift camps and dormitories. In particular it examines why there have been 18 suicides and numerous other suicide attempts and deaths attributed to medical neglect as a result of this policy. This report is based on ethnographic interviews with more than ten of these individuals, awaiting and/or after resettlement in third countries. If possible, one Afghan refugee writer will co-present if he can safely attend the conference. The paper will also place this policy in the context of Australia’s other offshore detentions, in Nauru and Papua New Guinea. It will also look at this policy as a model for the United States’ “Remain in Mexico” policy and its less well-publicized subsequent policies, and the United Kingdom’s attempts to offshore asylum-seekers to Rwanda.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 5
Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 5

Global Agenda: Legal Framework & Governance 1

IASFM20 New Panel 3

The Exploration of an Alternative Legal Framework in Response to The Asylum Situation in Taiwan

Hsiangyu Liu (Warwick Law School)

Do non-signatories to the Refugee Convention (“Convention”) play no role in addressing refugee concerns? In the orthodox view of refugee scholars, the Convention navigates the signatory states to deal with refugee issues. Accordingly, the literature predominantly focuses on the implementation of the Convention and its connection with International Human Rights Law. However, non-signatory states have been playing a pivotal role in accommodating refugees in reality. As a member of the international community, Taiwan has made critical contributions to accepting refugees since 1975. However, due to Taiwan’s unsolved status in relation to the People’s Republic of China, its efforts in this regard have mainly gone unnoticed on the global stage, along with the numerous challenges it has faced. In common with many other non-signatory states, Taiwan has not enacted any refugee law. It has also experienced a lengthy delay in the drafting process. Nevertheless, to fulfil its commitment to human rights protection, Taiwan has already incorporated some international human rights treaties, such as the, into its legal system by means of implementation acts. This new way of guaranteeing international human rights standards within its national borders ensures a basic level of human rights protection for all individuals within. Following this development, the Taiwanese government has been cautious about not violating the non-refoulement principle. In response to a constant need for asylum in this island country, the government has dealt with the refugee issue on a case-by-case basis over recent decades. Despite adopting this approach, it has received criticism for the inconsistency and opacity in its refugee protection mechanism. The project aims to critically examine the positions of non-signatory states to the Convention, such as Taiwan, in addressing refugee concerns and what protection is put in place for refugees. First of all, this project plans to analyse Taiwan’s current asylum situation through in-person interviews with stakeholders in Taiwan to gather their first-hand experience and information. This research will next take a broad examination of non-signatories in Southeast and East regions, utilising periodicals and other second-hand documents. To illuminate Taiwan’s distinct situation, a comparative analysis will be specifically conducted with Hong Kong, which has similarities in terms of geography, cultural closeness and non-signatory status. Ultimately, this project intends to propose an alternative framework that not only aligns with Taiwan’s situation but provides material for much wider discussion of refugee protection.

Negotiating Mutual Interdependence: Migration and Its Influence on Taiwan-Indonesia Bilateral Relations

Kristina Garalyte and Gintas Karalius (Vilnius University)

Recent report noted that “2023 revealed a quiet but booming relationship between Taiwan and Indonesia, and 2024 looks to be similarly robust. More educational exchanges, more technology collaboration projects, and more Indonesian migrant workers in Taiwan are planned” (Muhammad Zulfikar Rakhmat and Yeta Purnama, 2024). Indonesians constitute one of the largest migrant groups in Taiwan significantly affecting Taiwan’s labor market, especially the spheres of domestic work, eldercare, manufacturing and agriculture. On the other side, Taiwan remains to be a top destination

for Indonesians and their remittances quite strongly impact Indonesian economy. Leaving economic and practical benefits aside, this migration has been also marked by precarity in terms of labor exploitation, illegal recruitment and lack of regulation which contradicts migrants' rights ideal. Therefore, it's not surprising that migration has become a central topic in the bilateral relationship between Taiwan and Indonesia, significantly shaping diplomatic, economic and cultural interactions. This paper explores what role migration plays in the bilateral political relation between Taiwan and Indonesia, focusing on the policy initiatives, actual conflict and cooperation cases, and the involvement of various stakeholders in the negotiation process. It is based on policy analysis, media analysis and in-depth interviews with relevant stakeholders.

Keywords: Taiwan-Indonesia relations, labor migration, economic impact, policy development, migrant rights.

A System Broken: The 2023 White Paper on Citizenship, Immigration and Refugee Protection and its Implication on The Legal Framework for Refugee Protection

Laurence Juma (Rhodes University)

This paper discusses the proposed changes to the legal framework on refugee management and protection in South Africa contained in the White Paper on Citizenship, Immigration and Refugee Protection published by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) in November 2023. Prior to 2017, South Africa's legislative framework for refugee protection was modelled on international standards. The 1998 Refugee Act as well as the 2000 Refugee Regulations were based on the 1951 International Refugee Convention. For example, the Refugee Act not only listed exhaustive grounds for exclusion from and cessation of refugee status, but also laid down a broad spectrum of rights. Since then, there has been a noticeable retrogression at the policy level that has resulted in poor legislative interventions. In 2016 and 2017 the government adopted the White and Green Papers on Immigration, respectively, both of which resulted in the enactment of the Refugee Amendment Act 11 of 2017. The Act restricted access to asylum regime and withdrew a slew of rights that had previously been available to refugees and asylum seekers. The law together with policy changes have indicated a move towards a complete turnaround in SA's hitherto progressive approach to refugee protection. The 2023 White Paper follows on this path. One of its key proposal is that South Africa should withdraw from the 1951 United Nations (UN) Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 UN Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees. The purpose is to limit socio economic rights for refugees and asylum seekers, and to introduce camps for refugees at the border points. This paper challenges the normative premise of this proposal. It argues that the proposal is legally flawed and will not meet the constitutional threshold. The rights and freedoms sought to be limited are protected through various legal instruments, including the Constitution, and South Africa has obligations under both international and domestic law to protect these rights. The paper discusses these obligations and analyses the jurisprudence that has developed over the years to show the apparent variance between the intended policy objectives and the law. The paper predicts an avalanche of legal challenges should the proposal be reduced into law without proper consultation and review. In the whole the paper argues that whereas refugee management processes in South Africa have not been up to the desirable standard, the failure in the system have not been due to lack of legislative framework or law. The government is simply using the proposed policy changes to hide bureaucratic failures in its asylum and immigration systems. The paper concludes that the White Paper's approach is fundamentally flawed, and its proposals completely unjustifiable. A policy framework that does not address the lack of proper training for officials, corruption and political mismanagement is unlikely to positively reform South Africa's broken immigration systems.

Emerging practices of manifestly well-founded asylum procedures: toward fair, effective and functioning asylum systems?

Nikolas Feith Tan (University of Melbourne)

This paper explores the recent use of manifestly well-founded procedures, with a focus on practice in Brazil, Canada, Denmark, the UK and at the level of EU asylum law. The use of manifestly well-founded procedures has several potential advantages. For governments, such procedures can help to reduce backlogs and processing costs and may also enhance the fairness of asylum procedures by increasing decision-making consistency.⁶ For refugees, manifestly well-founded procedures allow applicants to quickly access the rights that flow from refugee status and avoid the stresses associated with full in-merits asylum procedures, which include uncertainty, lengthy wait times, and multiple interviews.

“Making Sense” of Turkey’s Refugee Policy: The Case of the Directorate General of Migration Management

Tim Jacoby (University of Manchester)

Based on recently gathered interview data, this paper considers the various approaches through which employees of Turkey’s Directorate General of Migration Management have interpreted and implemented state policy towards the country’s Syrian refugees. It uses the work of Dvora Yanow as a vantage point from which to understand initially how civil servants based in three cities have tried to “make sense” of these policies and the highly dynamic context in which they are working. It then goes on to look at how her work might help us to reveal the ways in which processes of naming, selecting and categorising may also play a role in making sense of and adapting national policy. Finally, we examine two examples of how our respondents elaborated upon these sense-making efforts through the use of storytelling.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 6
Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 6

Non-signatory States in International Refugee Law

Maja Janmyr (University of Oslo)

We are at a critical juncture in the development and application of international refugee law. The continued relevance of the Refugee Convention has come under doubt, and political and scholarly debates about ‘the end’ of the global refugee protection regime are ongoing. This panel brings together scholars examining the relationship between the international refugee regime and states that are non-signatory to the main refugee protection instruments – the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol (the Refugee Convention). Our aim is to break with the status quo in the ongoing discussions on the relevance of the Refugee Convention, i.e., their predominant focus on signatory states. Since its inception, the Refugee Convention has been central to scholarship on refugee and asylum issues. Yet, as at the end of 2023, forty-four members of the United Nations (UN) were not parties to either the Convention or to its Protocol. These states are found predominantly in the Middle East and in South and Southeast Asia. Many non-signatory states host (and often produce) much of the global refugee population. Türkiye has for a decade been the country hosting the biggest refugee population in the world, currently at 3.4 million. Pakistan and Bangladesh are among the world’s top ten refugee hosting countries, together hosting approximately 3 million refugees. Lebanon and Jordan together host over 1.5 million refugees. Notwithstanding, these states’ engagement with international refugee law has only rarely been considered to warrant examination. Instead, mainstream scholarship and practice have long viewed non-signatories as an ‘exception’. This panel aims to contribute to remedying this bias in the study of international refugee law. It brings non-signatory states into the ongoing debates about the past and future of the Refugee Convention and seeks to instigate further debate on the function and impact of international refugee law beyond treaty obligations. Zooming in on Lebanon, Türkiye, Pakistan and Bangladesh, the panelists focus on the substance and practice of international refugee law in non-signatory states and explore the ways in which these states interact with the international refugee regime, that is the international legal norms and supporting institutions focused on the protection of refugees. The papers are legally informed and richly contextualised at the same time, providing empirical, conceptual, critical and historical insights into why the Refugee Convention matters globally and beyond treaty law.

Non-Signatory States and International Refugee Law: Lebanon in Focus

Maja Janmyr (*Faculty of Law, University of Oslo*)

This presentation posits that international refugee law manifests itself in various ways in non-signatory states and that those states also partake in the practice – and contribute to the development – of this law. In making this argument, it focuses on Lebanon, a country that is arguably both an outsider and an insider to the international refugee regime. As the presentation will show, since its very inception Lebanon has been actively involved in developing international refugee law, including in its capacity as member of UNHCR’s Executive Committee. Lebanon has long also been reliant on UNHCR to protect and assist, and to seek durable solutions for many of its refugees. Over the past decade, the country has also grown in prominence as a host to some of the largest refugee populations in the world, as well as being the site of one of UNHCR’s main operations worldwide. At

the same time, Lebanon remains a non-signatory to the Refugee Convention and the Lebanese government has long insisted that it is not a country of asylum. It rejects, in principle, the local integration of refugees. This is an approach that can be traced back to the Lebanese Constitution of 1926 (as amended in 1990), which appears to prohibit any permanent settlement of foreigners. The unwillingness to host refugees is furthermore reflected in the lack of any meaningful domestic asylum legislation, creating a difficult protection landscape for the country's estimated 1,5–2 million refugees. Drawing on archival research as well as semi structured interviews conducted in Lebanon, the paper first examines the role of Lebanon in the development of international refugee law, zooming in on the drafting history of the main refugee protection instruments, Lebanon's involvement in UNHCR's Executive Committee, and in developing more recent soft law instruments such as the UN Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). Thereafter it explores the influence of international refugee law in Lebanon, discussing the country's non-accession to the Refugee Convention, the role of UNHCR in the country, and the negotiation of UNHCR–host state agreements as alternative protection regimes. The case study on Lebanon has broader implications for our understanding of refugee norms and hosting in non-signatory states. It challenges the traditional depiction of these states as passive actors in the international refugee regime and shows instead how these states have made important contributions to the establishment of international refugee law. The Lebanese example brings forth a rarely studied perspective that hopefully will inspire future research avenues on how we study and perceive non-signatory states' participation in shaping refugee norms and practices.

Studying Türkiye as a Non-Signatory to the Refugee Convention

Özlem Gürakar Skribeland (Faculty of Law, University of Oslo)

This presentation shares findings from Gürakar's ongoing research studying Türkiye as a non-signatory to the Refugee Convention. For the past decade, Türkiye has been the country hosting the biggest number of refugees, currently at more than 3.3 million Syrians and 300,000 people of other nationalities (mainly Afghans, Iraqis, and Iranians). While Türkiye did ratify both the Convention and its Protocol, this is subject to a geographical limitation as per which these instruments are to apply only to European refugees. The simple practical reality that the country's huge refugee population is comprised of non-Europeans was the original basis for approaching Türkiye as a non-signatory state; however, recent archival research reveals that Türkiye can be considered as such also for more substantive reasons. The presentation will first share key findings from original research into the Turkish Council of State's (*i.e.*, the country's highest administrative court) engagement with international refugee law in cases involving non-European refugees from all around the world. Systematic review of the relevant judgments reveals multiple instances where that court relies on different provisions of the 1951 Convention in connection with claims involving non-European refugees. This case-law analysis suggests that the Council of State seems to regard the Refugee Convention as a benchmark or the standard to be followed, beyond what is required by treaty obligations and domestic law. At the same time, the court's interaction with that instrument and international refugee law more generally is somewhat ambivalent and inconsistent and appears self-serving in many instances. Secondly, the presentation will highlight key insights from ongoing research on the UNHCR's role and presence in Türkiye over time, both in law and in practice. Tracing the broader historical evolution of this presence, marking the fluctuations in the agency's relations with the Turkish authorities, and paying particular attention to how these relate to major refugee arrivals to the country as well as to other key political and legal developments, this analysis reveals valuable insights into how the UNHCR exercises its mandate in a non-committal legal environment marked by an overall *ad hoc* attitude to refugee issues. Archival material is particularly helpful for gaining a more nuanced understanding of the challenges the UNHCR faces in carrying out its mandate, and it highlights how Türkiye's geographical limitation appears in diverse contexts as a

major sensitivity that needs to be re-negotiated time and again. Drawing from varied sources and assessing both the legal and practical implications of maintaining a geographical limitation to the Refugee Convention, this research aims to contribute original insights on the interaction between the international refugee regime and major refugee-hosting countries that have not committed themselves to the Refugee Convention.

Historicizing Bangladesh as a Non-Signatory State to the 1951 Refugee Convention

Naureen Rahim (University of Oslo)

Some of the world's major refugee hosting states are not parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. The South Asian region is a case in point. This presentation focuses on Bangladesh, a South Asian state which has hosted Rohingya refugees for almost three decades despite lacking any asylum management mechanism or domestic law on refugees. UNHCR is allowed to operate on Bangladeshi territory on the basis of a 1993 Memorandum of Understanding. To date, not many studies have examined in any detail the relationship between Bangladesh and the international refugee regime more generally, or the approach of Bangladesh to the Refugee Convention more specifically. This presentation seeks to fill this critical gap by drawing on one year of qualitative field work in Bangladesh and archival research at its National Parliament and the UNHCR archives in Geneva. First, the presenter will explore the reasons behind Bangladesh's decision to not accede the Convention, examining how its position have changed over time. Based on archival records, the presentation will show how Bangladesh was historically willing to accede the Convention and why it had a change of mind. Second, the presentation will examine Bangladesh's more contemporary involvement in international fora on refugee protection. Overall, a Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAAIL)- approach is adopted to make a claim that the (re)construction of country's international borders within the ambit of historical trajectories are also significant to explain Bangladesh's approach to the international refugee regime.

Critical Reflections on the Role of the UNHCR in the Protection and Repatriation of Afghan refugees in Pakistan

Arjumand Bano Kazmi (Faculty of Law, University of Oslo)

Focusing on Afghan refugees in Pakistan, this presentation offers critical, original, and empirically grounded insights from ongoing research on Pakistan as a non-signatory state to the Refugee Convention. It explores two key mandate roles of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Pakistan, i.e. international protection and voluntary repatriation. Analysis suggests that in performing these roles, UNHCR seeks to adhere to the norms of international refugee regime, yet the ever-changing domestic political context demands from UNHCR to adapt its approaches to delivering its mandate in a politically nuanced manner. For over four decades, Afghans seeking refuge in Pakistan have remained one of the largest refugee populations in a single country. UNHCR estimates that approximately 2 million Afghan refugees are currently residing in Pakistan with some form of valid registration whilst roughly one million reside unlawfully. Pakistan is neither a party to the Refugee Convention nor does it have any national legislation relating to refugees. There is thus a statutory vacuum relating to governing refugees. UNHCR has operated in Pakistan since the early 1980s to provide international protection to Afghan refugees and assist with voluntary repatriation. In doing so, UNHCR has worked in partnership with the governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan under a series of partnership agreements. This presentation firstly offers insights into UNHCR's role in providing international protection to Afghan refugees through its engagement with the judiciary.

Research findings demonstrate that UNHCR has recently engaged in novel ways with the domestic courts at different tiers. Through its expert opinions and evidence-based court submissions, UNCHR made it possible for the courts to formally recognize its role in conducting the refugee status determination and providing expert guidance to the state on all refugee issues. A recent High Court ruling *Rahil Azizi vs. The State and others* (2023) in favor of an Afghan refugee affirms UNHCR's protection mandate for refugees. The ruling also acknowledges the partnership agreements between UNHCR and the government of Pakistan as a legitimate source of the government policy towards refugees. Crucially, the ruling opens a possibility for domesticating key norms of the Refugee Convention. Secondly, UNHCR facilitates voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees that have periodically taken place over the years. This presentation focuses on mass repatriation during the 1990s. It was a politically intricate undertaking given that the security situation in Afghanistan after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces, was still hostile. Such a situation necessitated that UNHCR altered its role from the 'promotion' to that of 'facilitation'. Archival research on UNHCR's operation from the early 1990s offers critical insights into this policy shift within the UNHCR. The findings suggest that multiple factors – including the implementation of an encashment program to incentivize Afghan returnees – shaped the role of UNHCR in exercising its mandate. The ways in which UNHCR navigates its mandate in non-signatory states in practice, are hitherto scarcely explored. This presentation seeks to inspire further research to advance our contextual understanding of refugee governance and the role of UNHCR in non-signatory states.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB

Venue : Room 7

Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 7

The power of proximity:

Refugee-led solutions from within Indonesia's forcibly displaced community

Victoria Forsgate (Refugee and Asylum Seeker Information Centre)

Join us for an enlightening panel discussion featuring refugee leaders from some of Indonesia's most impactful refugee-led organizations. These leaders, who work tirelessly within their communities to address critical needs and bridge service gaps, are at the forefront of transforming refugee support and resourcing systems. Their efforts span education, health services, food security, legal and resettlement aid, community development, livelihood training, and more. This session is crucial for anyone interested in global refugee response as it provides a rare opportunity to hear directly from the leaders and members of Indonesia's forcibly displaced communities. Their voices offer essential insights and highlight the power of community-driven solutions to tackle displacement and foster resilience in an urbanizing world. Don't miss this chance to be inspired and informed by those at the forefront of disrupting unjust systems and redefining the solutions to urban displacement.

Speakers:

1. Abdul Khaliq, Refugee and Asylum Seeker Information Centre (RAIC) Indonesia
2. Ahmad Zaki Azimi, HELP for Refugees
3. Banafsha Mudaber, Care the Displaced Children
4. Rafat Ali Azimi, Refugee Learning Centre

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 8 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 8

**Faith in Transit:
 Navigating the many roles of religion within the migration industry (Part 1)**

Antje Missbach (Bielefeld University)
 Luigi Achilli (Bielefeld University)
 Melissa Phillips (Western Sydney University)

The intricate relationship between religion and migration has gained significant scholarly attention in recent years. A substantial body of literature has focused on the roles that religious beliefs, practices, and communities play in the experiences of migrants. Much of this research has concentrated on understanding how religion acts as a facilitator or barrier to integration and assimilation of migrants within their new communities (Foner and Alba 2008; Borja 2023; Mavelli and Wilson 2017; Horstmann and Jung 2021). Studies have detailed the ways in which religious institutions provide social support and aid in cultural adaptation among migrant communities (Scribner et al. 2020; Meyer and van der Veer 2021; Saunders et al. 2016). In this panel, we propose to extend the scope of inquiry by exploring the less examined dimensions of religion in the migration process. Specifically, we aim to uncover the roles of religious networks and infrastructures in navigating the staggered processes of irregular(ized) migration, border crossings, and the prolonged periods of liminality and "stuckedness" that characterize migrants' journeys nowadays. Our focus shifts to the global corridors of mass migration, where the dynamics of faith-based solidarity, intra-religious, and cross-religious charity, and mobility facilitation become most evident and critical. We seek to investigate how religious affiliations and networks not only provide spiritual solace but also act as pragmatic aids in the logistics of migration, offering resources, guidance, and safe havens. The panel will examine how these religious networks interact with the official and unofficial mechanisms of migration and border control, through challenging or complementing them. Moreover, we are interested in how faith based solidarity manifests in comparison to secular forms of migration support. This includes probing into the distinct ways faith communities mobilize to support migrants, the theological underpinnings of such mobilizations, and the implications for inter-religious dialogue and cooperation. Our goal is to bring to light the nuanced and often under-investigated dimensions of how religion intersects with the practical realities of migration. By doing so, we aim to contribute novel insights into the multifaceted ways in which faith and faith-based networks influence the journey of migrants, offering a more holistic understanding of migration beyond the endpoints of integration and assimilation. This approach not only enriches our comprehension of the migration process but also opens up new avenues for addressing the challenges faced by migrants in a manner that recognizes the importance of spiritual and religious dimensions in their lives.

The Gaza factor: Islam, civil society and refugee protection in Indonesia

Max Walden (Melbourne University & ABC)

There is a strong tradition of providing asylum to the displaced within Islam and Muslim societies inspired by the Prophet Muhammad's own forced migration from Mecca to Medina, referred to as the *hijrah*. Accordingly, the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, accepted by member states of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) including Indonesia in 1990, proclaims that "every man ... if persecuted, is entitled to seek asylum in another country. The country of refuge shall ensure his

protection until he reaches safety, unless asylum is motivated by an act which Shari'a regards as a crime". The UNHCR has sought to leverage this spirit in its work in Muslim-majority states, particularly those that are not signatory to the Refugee Convention such as Indonesia. Local Indonesian civil society actors such as Islamic NGOs or other faith-based community groups have historically shown limited interest in assisting refugees, however potentially have greater legitimacy than international groups in advocating for refugee rights. Large, mainstream Islamic NGOs Dompot Dhuafa and Aksi Cepat Tanggap have initiated some programs for refugees in Indonesia, such as emergency assistance for boat arrivals and basic education programs. With Israel's war in Gaza provoking an outpouring of public sympathy for Palestinians in Indonesia, the government has pledged to evacuate 1000 injured Palestinians from Gaza to Indonesia for treatment, while president-elect Prabowo Subianto has said the government is prepared to bring 1000 Palestinian refugees to study in East Java. Nahdlatul Ulama, one of the largest Islamic organisations in the world, has said it would provide 50 university scholarships to Palestinian students. Several hundred Palestinians are among the roughly 12,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Indonesia, and these pledges could further discussions around refugee protection and rights in the country, especially if leveraged by Islamic civil society groups. Combined with Indonesia's pledges under United Nations Global Compact for Refugees, local civil society actors drawing on notions of Islamic solidarity have the potential to meaningfully strengthen refugee protection and human rights in Indonesia.

Rohingya Exodus: Exploring The Religious Dimensions Of Forced Migration

Jisan Sarowar (Aligarh Muslim University)

The Rohingya exodus is emblematic of the intersection between religious persecution and forced displacement. As a persecuted Muslim minority in predominantly Buddhist Myanmar, the Rohingya have faced systematic discrimination, violence, and displacement for decades. Religion and religious institution is both a central aspect of their identity and a primary target of expel from their homeland, with state-sponsored campaigning aimed at erasing their religious and cultural heritage. This research paper delves into the intricate religious dimensions of the Rohingya exodus, shedding light on the complexities of forced migration within a context deeply influenced by religious identity and persecution. Focusing on the experiences of the Rohingya Refugee fleeing Myanmar, it seeks to unravel the multitasked ways in which religious shapes their Migration, trajectories, identities, and sense of belonging. Along with, it examines the role of religious institutions, practices, and network in providing support, solidarity, and resilience in the face of adversity. Drawing on survey research conducted in refugee camp and resettlement area, along with guidance on both primary and secondary data and information help to portray an overall scenario of Rohingya's exodus. By illuminating the religious dimensions of force migration among the Rohingya, this paper contributes to a deeper understanding of the complex interplay between religion, religious institutions, state agencies, persecution, and displacement.

Taking Refuge in Faith: Religious Organizations and Refugee Mental Wellbeing in Canada

Sanam Vaghefi (Capilano University)

Canada is one of the key refugee receiving countries and it is also one of the first countries that officially adopted multiculturalism as its policy. As a result, major areas such as Metro Vancouver present a visibly multicultural and multireligious scene. This research explores the roles played by religious organizations such as mosques and churches in fostering refugee mental wellbeing in Metro Vancouver. It uses a phenomenological lens based on Husserl's concept of lifeworld to find responses

to the following research questions: How does faith and religious community support play a role in improving the mental wellbeing of refugees in Metro Vancouver, Canada? How do they provide refugees from different social locations with mental wellbeing coping strategies? How do different aspects of refugee social locations, particularly religious affiliation and its intersections with nationality, race, ethnicity and gender shape their interactions with those religious organizations? The sample of this research consists of Ukrainian, Syrian, Iraqi and Iranian refugees who identify as Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant Christians, including converts, as well as Sunni and Shia Muslims. In addition, the sample includes religious organizations and community leaders such as pastors and imams. Open-ended qualitative interviews will be conducted with the research participants to understand the interaction between refugee mental wellbeing and religious organizational support, and the themes derived from those interviews will be further discussed to be able to identify the main aspects of this interaction in the refugee lived experiences.

The Rohingya “Ummah”: Tracing Rohingya Transnational Discourses and Impact on Religious Belonging

Nursyazwani (University of Pennsylvania)

What is an “ummah” and how does the notion of ummah change in transit and exile? Through ethnographic fieldwork with displaced Rohingya in Chicago and Malaysia, this paper explores how Rohingya displacement from Myanmar re/produce their notions of an ummah. Building on the anthropology of sovereignty, migration, and religion to think with dispossessed and displaced Rohingya, I attend to their transnational discourses that map out topographic and topologic belonging. Myanmar’s ethno-religious persecution led Rohingya to imagine a Muslim sanctuary, one they found in Muslim-majority Malaysia. Despite the legal constraints they encounter in the host country, Rohingya engage in everyday religious practices to claim belonging to the ummah, a Muslim community bounded by faith and is transboundary in nature. However, since the surge of xenophobia and racism in Malaysia from 2020, Rohingya interlocutors are becoming increasingly disillusioned with the notion of Muslim solidarity. Concomitantly, as many Rohingya are afforded resettlement and citizenship opportunities in Western liberal countries like the United States, their experiences are communicated to those who are still living as refugees in Malaysia. This paper thus traces how Rohingya resettlement to the U.S. and new affordances of legal citizenship produce and shape different imaginations and experiences of community belonging among those in Malaysia and beyond. In so doing, I examine how transnational ideas of juridico legal rights and religious community re/produce an imagined diasporic community. Attending to Rohingya transnational relations illuminates how those living on the margins of nation-states strive to make new worlds at the margins of their displacement.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 9 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 9

Construction and Reconstruction of Displaced Persons, Migrants and Refugees (Part 1)

Ulrike Schultz (Friedensau Adventist University)
 Kwaku Arhin-Sam (Friedensau Adventist University)

“Migrant”, “refugee”, “displaced person”, “asylum seeker”, etc., are labels that carry different connotations for people using these terms and the people to whom these terms are applied. Depending on how these labels are framed in public discourses, they also affect people’s attitude towards different categories of people on the move. Moreover, some of the categories are legal categories and determine the entitlements of people on the move. Yet, clear-cut labels and categories of people, have been shown to be vague, inconsistent, and confusing with the everyday realities of persons involved and the way they categorize themselves. For some, these labels do not represent their migration motives, For others, the way they are categorized constantly change due to political, economic and legal transformation. In migration and refugee studies, the making and unmaking of such labels and categories, coupled with how they are framed in public discourses are not without power and legal, social and political connotations. Often, people affected by such categories and labels are not part of the process of deciding these labels and categories, reflecting power relations and global inequalities. Yet, there are instances where people affected by labels and categories tend to use them to their advantage as a way to reconstruct, renegotiate or navigate their self-making processes in societies. But how can we address these tensions in empirical research? How can we talk about people on the move? How can people on the move talk about their lives beyond categories? How do they resist categorization? How can we make the process of categorization visible? Who has the power to categorize others? This panel invites papers that look at the labeling and framing of people on the move from the global south and the implications of such framing on groups and individuals affected by these labels and frames. A particular focus will be put on methodological considerations.

Categorizing return migrants: Juxtapositioning accepted and rejected returnees in Nigeria and Ghana

Kwaku-Arhin Sam (Friedensau Adventist University)

Whereas labels and categories of migrants tend to focus on people immigrants and forced migrants, little attention is given to the plethora of labels and categories for people who return to their “homeland”. Categorizing return migrants equally has different connotations on the people who are affected by these labels as other people on the move. This paper explores the effectual underpinnings of the various categories of return migrants and the implications of such labels in their process of renegotiating their reintegration in the home country. In anglophone West Africa, specifically Nigeria and Ghana, return has multiple meanings. Generally referred to as returnees, these people may be categorized and labeled different depending on the nature of their return.

From the black Americans and Caribbean who return to their “ancestral homeland” to deportees, to “voluntary” assisted returnees, to the “normal returnee”, these labels brings with it different social undertones which dictates how the home society treats and relates with them.

The paper argues that the different categories of returnees and their respective labels offer some returnees certain social status, acceptance and capital while others face discrimination, stigmatization and rejection. It also the position of this paper that these labels for the different categories of returnees also put some returnees into positions where they have to perfume these labels to be able to redeem the benefits and social class attached to some of these labels. In the end, these categorizations of returnees and their respective labels empowers and dis-empower different people by deciding who is welcome and who is not, who is a failure and who is successful, who is legitimate and who is illegitimate and who should stay and who should remigrate.

Changing 'Categories' of Belonging: Migration from Sudan to Jordan and Germany

Lucas Cé (University of Göttingen, Germany)

In my paper, I will discuss the methodological advantages of using open-ended questions in interviews to study so-called 'forced migration', and of engaging research participants as interviewers to reconstruct people's changing perspectives on sociolegal categories. Based on conducting biographical-narrative interviews and participant observation with individuals and families who migrated from the Republic of the Sudan to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Federal Republic of Germany, I will discuss two empirical cases to show:

- a) how the category of "African migrants" is used by 'Arab' Sudanese from Darfur in Western Europe to avoid talking about, among other things, the involvement of family members in the perpetration of "crimes of genocide" in their home region of Darfur, Sudan; and
- b) how the focus on experiences of physical violence in Sudan is used by non-'Arab' Sudanese migrants from Darfur to delegitimize the claims of 'Arab' Sudanese citizens born in the diaspora to speak on behalf of "Sudanese refugees" in Jordan.

By focusing on these changing 'categories' and their interdependencies, I will discuss the advantages of reconstructing people's changing belongings and perspectives based on sociobiographical approaches to migration processes. This approach proved to be more useful for studying migration phenomena in the empirical cases of Sudan than focusing on more static notions such as 'migration regimes', as it avoids the essentialization of structures, categories, and life histories. This becomes particularly clear when we want to reconstruct everyday relevancies and lifeworlds of people who experience migration phenomena in their diversity.

Combining approaches and refining methods: the value of adjusting methodological strategies in field research

Cleia Kattwinkel (Osnabrück University)

This paper looks into the issue of categorization and how people on the move resist to the labels assigned to them by working around them, negotiating their meanings and, whenever possible, using them for their particular interests – which are often at odds with local and/or international geopolitical interests. It looks into the particular case of Liberian refugees living a protracted situation in Ivory Coast in 2011, right before the cessation of their refugee status by the UNHCR in 2012. It reflects upon methodological and analytical issues related to my own experience as a young researcher working in the field for the first time, and trying to make sense of the data in the different stages of analysis. It also discusses the process of constructing and reconstructing the meanings attributed – by both

researcher and participants – to the interactions throughout the period of data collection. For this purpose, I revisit part of the data collected by me in 2011 using a different set of analytical tools to capture the latent meanings (Rosenthal 2018) present in what seems to be contradicting data and ambivalent interactions with participants. Thus, this paper discusses how the research context in addition to the participants' self-presentations may influence the researcher's perception of the data. More importantly, it illustrates how these meanings may shape the choices regarding the themes to be further explored during the period of data collection and analysis in the field.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 10 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 1, Panel 10

**Resettlement and complementary pathways as disguised externalisation:
 Lessons learnt from national and regional practice**

Daniela Vitiello (University of Tuscia)

In recent years, collective responsibility towards refugees has been acknowledged as a key goal on the international agenda. The 2016 New York Declaration and the UN Global Compacts on Migration and Refugee expressly recognised the pursuit of durable solutions as a global responsibility. This has triggered the development of resettlement and complementary pathways in many countries as a promising way to deal with protracted displacement. Lacking any legal basis for these schemes under international or regional law, the proliferation of cooperation on resettlement and complementary pathways risks, on the one hand, expanding fragmentation and asymmetry, on the other, prompting consequences on refugees' rights. This panel engages in a critical appraisal of the potential and pitfalls of resettlement and complementary pathways with a view to demonstrating how they can be turned into measures of disguised externalisation and deterrence. The analysis takes into account both North-South and South-South resettlement and/or complementary pathways, by investigating three national case studies – Australia, Canada and Argentina – and comparing them with the developments in the European Union (EU). These case studies have been selected due to the commonalities that can be identified among their resettlement and/or complementary pathways, both in terms of conceptualisation of these tools as safe route alternatives and with regards to the intended goal of enhancing the responsibility sharing among the states. Drawing on the outcomes of the previous analysis, this panel aims to contribute to the scholarly and policymakers' debate on how to reduce the fragmentation in the design of resettlement and complementary pathways, while preventing an instrumental use of these safe route alternatives as migration management tools.

South-South complementary pathways: the strange case of Argentina

Mariù Porchia (University of Ferrara)

Argentina is the first and so far the only country in Latin America to implement a community sponsorship programme, through the “Special Humanitarian Visa Programme for Foreigners Affected by the Conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic”, commonly known as the “Syrian Programme”. It is also the only South-South complementary pathway in the world to date. While the implementation of the programme has been widely welcomed, its limited scope raises concerns. The sponsorship programme focuses on a population fleeing war 13,000 kilometres from Argentina, but excludes people from nearby countries such as Venezuela, Colombia and Haiti, where most protection requests originate. This selective geographical focus suggests a strategic use of complementary channels, possibly aimed at presenting a humanitarian image to the international community at the lowest possible financial cost (Rovetta Cortés 2024). Moreover, there is a discrepancy between the projected and the actual number of people admitted to the country (Cyment et al. 2019; Liguori et al., 2018), as well as indications of a trend that could be described as discrimination on the basis of religion, which favours Christians (Rovetta Cortés 2024). However, the element that most points to a policy of control rather than inclusion is the lack of “complementarity”: the private sponsorship scheme is being implemented in a country where there is no public resettlement programme, and the State delegates its responsibility for the reception and integration of the forcibly displaced to civil society actors. These

criteria allow states using community sponsorship to reduce costs and increase their ability to select desired refugees, suggesting a policy of migration control that mirrors the model of the Global North. The objective of the research is to analyse the implementation of legal pathways in the context of Latin America, with a view to identifying potential avenues for creating safe asylum pathways in other Latin American countries. The research is conducted on the basis of an analysis of data on the implementation of the programme, the available literature, and interviews with the actors involved. The final objective is the construction of a regional model of legal pathways, whose potential in the Global South is still unexplored.

A North-South market-driven refugee resettlement model: the case of Australia

Cristina Milano (University of Tuscia)

The Australian Community Support Program (CSP) which was formally established in 2017, allows for the resettlement of 1,000 sponsored refugees per year, focusing on those who are “work ready” and have “functional English”. However, despite its structured approach, the CSP has faced considerable criticism. Indeed, the practice of using private funding to directly replace government-funded places, together with the preference given to “work-ready” refugees in the CSP means that the Australian initiative cannot be seen as an additional pathway to resettlement. Instead, in its current form it may represent a market-driven outsourcing and privatisation of the existing refugee programme. In addition, high visa application and processing fees create a significant financial barrier, making the programme accessible primarily to those who can afford it or have sponsors with sufficient resources. Moreover, the selection criteria have been criticized as discriminatory, favouring refugees who meet certain economic and linguistic benchmarks over those most in need of protection. This preferential treatment is consistent with a broader policy of deterrence, whereby the government seeks to control and limit refugee arrivals to those who can quickly integrate and contribute economically. These challenges highlight a broader issue: ensuring that complementary pathways to refugee protection, such as community sponsorship, are truly safe and effective alternatives to traditional asylum procedures.

North-South community-driven complementary pathways: the case of Canada

Luca Galli (University of Milan)

Canada is usually referred to as an inspirational model for any legal system wishing to implement resettlement procedures and, in particular, complementary pathways characterized by an effective involvement of civil society. Indeed, the success of the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program is witnessed by its own numbers: more than 45 years since its beginning and more than 300,000 refugees assisted, which are the results of a clear regulatory basis and the involvement of an articulate social base of sponsors willing to take responsibility for the relocation, reception and integration of the beneficiaries. On the other hand, the Canadian experience is not without critical issues, ranging from excessively time-consuming selection procedures to flaws in coordination between private sponsorship and public resettlement programs. In light of this, an analysis of the Canadian model certainly demonstrates a strong interest, whether in terms of best practices to be replicated or flaws to be prevented in designing new mechanisms for refugees’ protected entry.

European approaches to resettlement and complementary pathways: searching for an EU model of community sponsorship

Daniela Vitiello (University of Tuscia)

Since the EU-Turkey Statement, the EU has expressly framed the recourse to resettlement as an instrument of solidarity towards third countries and responsibility sharing in the field of asylum. At the same time, lacking any binding regulatory framework at the EU level to discipline these developments, the 1 to 1 resettlement scheme foreseen by the EU-Turkey Statement has turned on the implementing stage as a tool of “disguised externalisation” (Vitiello 2018). While embracing the narrative of solidarity and responsibility-sharing, it allowed the return of Syrian refugees who arrived irregularly on the European shores, and the admittance in exchange of Syrian refugees who were trapped in Turkey and did not even try to spontaneously arrive in Europe. In this way, resettlement was turned into a deterrence tool, based on an external application of the principle of solidarity among the EU Member States, enshrined in Art. 80 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the EU (TFEU). The scheme’s innovative yet controversial nature attracted significant attention and criticism. Indeed, it challenged key principles of international refugee law, by raising the problem of discrimination between certain nationalities of asylum seekers and others, and suggesting that the spontaneous arrival of asylum seekers could be limited for border management purposes, regressing on the principle of non-penalisation of refugees for their irregular entry. The 2020 EU New Pact on Migration and Asylum in its overall structure, and in particular the new Union Resettlement Framework and the Regulation (EU) 2024/1351 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on asylum and migration management, amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1147 and (EU) 2021/1060 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 (so called “Asylum and Migration Management Regulation”), seems to uphold this trend and streamline the nexus between resettlement/complementary pathways and return, in the sense that “[a]n effective and common EU system for returns [...] can promote safe legal pathways” (European Commission policy document, “Towards an operational strategy for more effective returns” of 24 January 2023). Other features of the new EU framework for safe route alternatives seem to be the externalization of the application of the principle of solidarity and responsibility sharing among the EU Member States in order to justify asylum burden shifting to third countries along with a skilled-based approach to humanitarian admission. In light of this, the analysis evaluated the consistency of this model with the premises of EU asylum law and suggests possible alternatives.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB
Venue : Room 1
Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel II

Border Externalisation: Critical Global Perspectives (Part 2)

Dr Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli (University of Sheffield)

Dr Natalia Cintra (University of Southampton)

Unpacking the Panicocene: securitizing narratives of climate change-induced mobilities

Elena Giacomelli and Pierluigi Musarò (University of Bologna)

The literature on the climate crisis–migration nexus shows how categorizing environmental migrants as distinguishable from non–environmental migrants is not empirically possible. The factors influencing the decision–making process on migration choice are complex and multi–causal and typically consist of relatively local mobilities. Nevertheless, we find many institutional reports as well as news articles that use (excessive) quantitative estimation, forecasting that climate migration will range from 200 million to one billion migrants by 2050. As Durand–Delacré argues: “Such narratives are problematic because they do not reflect the reality of human movement in the context of climate change, but also because they cast “climate migration” as a security threat to the Global North, thereby inviting harmful, xenophobic policy responses aimed at containing migration” (2023, p.2).

The spectre of climate migration becomes an emblematic figure of an age of panic, which we theorize through the concept of Panicocene (Giacomelli, 2023), intended as a time when the two phenomena that characterize contemporary society meet in a unique distorted narrative, an amplified emergency that causes anxiety and discriminations. The Munich Climate Index (2024) shows, globally, the security threat posed by climate migration ranks seventh in a list of over thirty potential security risks. This goes hand–in–hand with more “traditional” forms of security and externalized practices of borders, to prevent asylum seekers and other migrants from reaching their borders. To what extent climate change is entering border control and externalization practices? During our field–research in Senegal in May 2021, placing attention on fishing communities in Dakar and Saint Louis, where climate induced migration is mainly internal, we analyze how such framing are used as another excuse to externalize borders. We present how these narratives are instrumentalized to stop people from migrating and create new forms of externalizations of borders to mask the underlying structural causes. Our aim is to deconstruct depoliticized narratives of so–called ‘climate migrants’ and instead to unravel the ongoing colonial continuities underpinning the climate crisis and the structures of racial capitalism that create socio–spatial inequalities in environment and mobility.

Remote biopower: Constructing the system of border externalization through health controls

David FitzGerald (UC San Diego)

The selection of migrants based on judgments about their health was a fundamental driver of the development of state migration controls. The construction of a legal and logistical infrastructure generated state capacity not only to control immigrants on arrival, but also to extend control outward, first over migrants in transit, then to points of embarkation, and finally to places of origin. Between the 1880s and 1920s, a system of remote controls was developed based on five innovations: 1) the creation of legal fictions in border spaces that a migrant has not legally entered the territory and can be summarily expelled, 2) sanctions on companies carrying inadmissible passengers, 3) stationing

personnel abroad to carry out screening, 4) transforming neighboring states into restrictive buffer zones; and 5) the establishment of a health passport regime requiring individual migrants to certify admissibility before embarking. This system created the capacity for the projection of remote biopower, the flexing of Foucauldian biopower beyond the state's borders, that undergirded the extreme mobility controls, mass expulsions, and gutting of asylum and refugee resettlement during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Offshoring and Externalisation Reimagined: Exploring Colonial Durabilities in the UK-Rwanda Scheme

Beth Porter (University of Sheffield)

The ill-fated UK-Rwanda partnership is frequently portrayed as both symptomatic of a contemporary 'all-Western externalisation trend' towards offshoring as a 'solution' to the global migration 'crisis', and a 'seismic juncture' in longer histories of migration management a drastic turn away from Britain's long-standing commitment to human rights (Bar-Tuvia, 2018; Drakeley, 2023). The Rwanda policy is thus part of an *unprecedented* shift towards offshoring and externalisation practices that are *contrary* to the usual operations of Global North states.

Combining Stoler's (2008) concept of 'colonial durabilities' with historical sociology and critical realism, this paper provides an alternative perspective. In analysing (dis)continuities between the Rwanda policy (2022-24) and the Sierra Leone Resettlement Scheme (1786-91), it demonstrates how practices of offshoring pursued by British colonial powers are reactivated in the present, (re)producing similar lived experiences over two centuries later. Crucially however, it illuminates the continued magnetism of colonial-racial thought in enabling and shaping schemes like the Rwanda policy. Racialised hierarchies of people and places, constructed for and through colonial rule, continue to determine who belongs where, who is valuable and for what purpose, justifying offshoring initiatives that reinscribe long-standing patterns of domination, exploitation, abandonment and resistance in their attempts to keep subjugated populations out of the 'modern' geographies of the Global North. Far from an aberration then, I argue the Rwanda policy has deep historical antecedents, constituting a revitalised, racialised (post)colonial practice that seeks to reinforce the modern/colonial juncture that divides humans and 'nonbeings', places and 'nonplaces' (Escobar, 2007).

Exploring the Gendered and Racialised Impacts of EU Externalisation Policies

Jane Freedman (Université Paris 8)

Processes of externalisation of migration control have been ongoing for a long time (Faist, 2019; FitzGerald, 2019), and have involved the creation of structures, systems and agreements, which attempt to restrict mobility of people before they reach a State's borders and thus prevent migrants entering into a national territory to make an asylum claim. These externalisation processes have very largely been used to prevent mobility of racialised migrants from countries of the Global South towards countries of the Global North. The impacts of externalisation should be understood as gendered and racialised. As previous research on migration has shown, gender inequalities and gendered structures of power and domination have an impact at all stages of a migration journey: influencing reasons for departure, affecting access to mobility and creating situations of gendered and racialized vulnerability in countries of transit and destination. Gender should be understood here as part of an intersectional framework, interacting with race, social class, age, sexual orientation,

(dis)ability, and other axes of social inequality, to create particular forms of violence and situations of vulnerability (as well as opportunities) for people on the move. In this paper I will consider the gendered and racialised impacts of EU externalisation policies on those attempting to reach an EU State to make an asylum claim. Based on interviews with people on the move, CSOs and NGOs, and policy-makers working both within the EU, and in States through which refugees transit, the paper will show the ways in which externalisation reinforces gendered immobilities, and contributes to the (re)production of sexual, gendered and racist forms of violence and control over women's bodies. Further it will consider the ways in which the EU's New Pact on Immigration and Asylum will contribute to deepening and exacerbating these gendered and racist forms of violence.

Power asymmetry and domination in bilateral asylum governance: the case of Australia and Nauru's externalisation agreement

Jemima Mckenna (University of Melbourne)

The engagement of the third-states within the Global South as sites of external asylum governance has become an increasingly popular policy approach with states of the Global North. Whilst these bilateral asylum agreements are consistently described as 'asymmetrical', 'imbalanced' and 'neocolonial', the precise nature of these power relations remains unarticulated in existing literature. Through repurposing neo-republican domination theory, this paper identifies three conceptual elements of domination (inequality, dependency and interference) that comprise a theoretical framework for investigating power asymmetry within the practice of externalisation. In order to investigate these conceptual elements, this paper employs the case study of Australia's externalisation agreement with Nauru. It draws on 30 elite interviews and substantive document analysis, and breaks the elements of inequality, dependency and interference into functional dimensions for study. This paper finds that whilst inequality, dependency and interference are evident within the case study, these conceptual elements are also sites of significant normative contestation between actors and concludes that exploring these tensions offers greater insight into externalisation than a diagnosis of domination. This research thus contributes to bridging the gap between abstract theoretical conceptualisations of externalisation and the concrete empirics of the practice.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB

Venue : Room 2

Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 12

Irregular Survival Migrants and the Bordering of Access to Services in Destination Countries

Nellie Alcaraz and Jill Hanley (McGill School of Social Work)

International instability – political, economic, social – is inciting increasing numbers of migrants to leave their home countries in search of security and wellbeing elsewhere. When the motivations for migration fall outside of the Geneva Convention on Refugees yet still reflect a person's serious concern for their safety, security and wellbeing, we increasingly call this "survival migration". Unfortunately, survival migrants face major efforts to block their movements and, for those who manage to arrive in their destination countries, they are often treated with suspicion and exclusion from social rights. Rather than being treated with concern for their human rights, they are often treated as though they have violated the supposed right of the state to determine who should and should not be given permission to cross the border. In this panel, we address the ways in which bordering – the way that state, service provider and individual practices operationalize the border in the daily lives of precarious status migrants – follows survival migrants as they try to integrate into their new homes. We present three papers from different perspectives on the struggles of survival migrants: (1) Challenges in accessing health care; (2) Immigration perils of vulnerable international students; and (3) Decision-making of undocumented migrants about whether to return to their countries of origin or not.

Precarious and Forced Migrations: When Status Prescribes Social and Health Hardships

Andréanne Dufour (IU SHERPA)

Vulnerability and previously documented inequities are growing among migrant populations, and more specifically those facing forced migration, as well as those losing their status and living undocumented in Canada. In the province of Quebec, 50,000 to 70,000 people, based on their precarious migration status, are denied access to health and social services recognized as a right for other local and migrant populations. In other words, the border follows precarious status migrants into the country to block their access to health and social services. People with precarious migration status face great challenges accessing health care, such as prohibitive fees, refusal of care, and discrimination by clinicians based on migratory status. This presentation aims to discuss the results of a master's thesis, which documents through 19 interviews completed during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the health and social challenges faced by migrants with precarious status, especially those who have been going through forced migration in the Montreal metropolis. Four emerging themes of the analysis will be discussed: Migrants' perceptions and expectations of policies (1), precarious living and working conditions: the decisive social position (2), adaptation strategies (and their limits) to prevent threats to health (3), and how the system accentuates barriers to access to care (4). The results of this research project shed light on the challenges faced by precarious migrants, especially those who have been going through forced migration and face restrictions in their right to access services.

A reconsideration of the vulnerability of international students: hidden survival migration

Jill Hanley, Erfaneh Razavipour, Jilefack Amin Ngami (McGill School of Social Work)

This paper presents the results from a recent study documenting the challenges of international students who must navigate complex economic, immigration and social pitfalls in their efforts to obtain permanent residency. While the stereotype in Canada is that international students are wealthy and socially privileged, there is increasing evidence that extended families are pooling their collective savings to support the migration of a student in the hopes that the young person can: (1) improve their own life chances; (2) send remittances to support the family left behind; and (3) potentially facilitate the chain migration of other kin. Indeed, numerous scams have been uncovered where transnational recruiters make impossible promises to potential international students, convincing their families to go heavily into debt for the opportunity to migrate, and then leaving them high and dry once they are in Canada. In fact, the increasingly complex trajectories to permanent residency via international student visas and the subsequent bordering of their everyday lives due to their diminished rights – leaves students in hidden situations of survival migration vulnerable to being undocumented, financial destitution and even human trafficking.

Hiding for Survival: the decisions of undocumented migrants to remain rather than return home

Nellie Alcaraz (McGill School of Social Work)

This paper presents a case study on the experiences of non-status that lead them to feel compelled to remain in Canada despite facing the ongoing stress and risks associated with being undocumented – everyday bordering. Drawing on years of organizing experience and narrative interviews with five non-status migrants, this paper identifies several important factors that influence decisions about whether to stay or go when immigration plans go awry. Undocumented migrants may decide to stay because of such things as: they have a continuing need to send remittances to their financially dependent, left-behind families; they fear repression or violence if they return to their country of origin; they see no meaningful economic, social or family future for themselves in their country of origin; or, on a more positive note, they have created strong ties of love, friendship and belonging in Canada. This paper offers key recommendations for social work practitioners who engage in social justice and advocacy work alongside non-status migrants.

“Voluntary” they say, not exactly voluntary”: perceptions of European ‘assisted voluntary return and reintegration’ programmes in India

Vidya Ramachandran (University of Oxford)

This paper examines European assisted voluntary return and reintegration programmes (AVRR) from the vantage of AVRR caseworkers and returned migrants in India. In recent years, (forced) migration researchers have seized upon state removal practices, including AVRR. Existing research draws mostly from the perspectives of AVRR actors within ‘deporting’ states in the Global North, and to a lesser extent, the experiences of returned migrants. But we know relatively little about those tasked with post-return support – often, faith-based charities that distribute subsistence, vocational training, and psychosocial support. This research critiques AVRR’s purported logics of ‘voluntariness’ and ‘humanitarianism’ by exploring reintegration networks in India.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB
Venue : Room 3
Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 13

Global Agenda: Non-state Actors' Contribution

IASFM20 New Panel 4

The Role of International Organizations and Civil Society Organization in Advocating Right to Livelihood for Refugees in Indonesia

R.A. Rizka Fiani Prabaningtyas, Athiqah Nur Alami, Faudzan Farhana, Irin Oktafiani, and Tri Nuke Pudjiastuti (National Research and Innovation Agency Indonesia)

This study focuses on the role of international organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs) in advocating rights to livelihood for refugees in Indonesia. Refugees' right to livelihood has been seen as one of the pathways to foster temporary de-facto integration to ease refugees' engagement with local communities and boost their empowerment for sustainable livelihood amid their uncertain waiting period in Indonesia. By taking the case studies of The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) Indonesia, this study utilizes a qualitative research method by collecting data through interviews, workshops, and relevant scholarly works. This study also builds on the primary data from our previous research on the digital economy for refugees in Indonesia. UNHCR and IOM are international organizations that are mandated to provide protection and assistance for refugees, while JRS Indonesia has contributed to the provision of services for refugees. This study finds that these organizations play crucial roles in three ways: 1) build awareness among government institutions about the importance of livelihood as an alternative solution to resettlement, 2) empower refugee communities to build their capacities and skills, and 3) create a conducive environment for refugees' livelihood activities. Nevertheless, different mandates of these organizations may shape their priorities in advocating the right to livelihood. Moreover, numerous limitations, including their lack of capacity and resources, hinder the effectiveness of their roles.

Keywords: refugees, right to livelihood, international organizations, civil society organization, defacto integration

The influence of grassroots queer refugee organizations abstract (GQROS) in refugee governance in Australia and Canada

Nuri Yunita Hasan Nasution (Independent researcher)

Queer refugees who seek asylum in host countries, including Australia and Canada experience welfare issues, namely issues in accessing asylum opportunities, navigating border protection policies, asylum hearing process, and accessing settlement needs. Grassroots Queer Refugee Organisations (GQROs) emerge as local-based social movements that seek to advocate for queer refugees' protection in the states they are located in. This research aims to understand the comparison of the level of influence GQROs have in the refugee governance in Australia and Canada by examining their organisational activities, their responsiveness to the welfare issues of queer refugees, as well as their engagement with the governance actors, which are government and service providers. This study contributes to the extension of the under-researched literature of GQROs, as GQROs remain undertheorised. The analysis presented in this thesis will reveal the categories of

activities conducted by GQROs and whether they are responsive to the welfare issues of queer refugees. Moreover, this research contributes to further examining the level of influence GQROs assert in the current queer refugee regimes by understanding how GQROs engage with queer refugee governance actors, which are government and service providers in the responsiveness they have produced. By comparatively applying the thematic analysis of the organizational documents of three GQROs in Australia (Forcibly Displaced People Network (FDPN), Queer Refugee and Asylum Seekers Peers (QRASP), Queer Sisterhood Project (QSP)), and three GQROs in Canada (Action LGBTQIA+ avec les ImmigrantEs et RéfugiéEs (AGIR) Montreal, Capital Refugee Rainbow (CRR), Rainbow Refugee Association of Nova Scotia (RRANS)) to examine GQROs' activities as well as using the Invited and Invented Spaces of Participation (IISP) theoretical lens to explore the collaborative and/ or challenging nature of their engagements with the government actors, this research found that both Australian and Canadian GQROs were responsive to the welfare issues through their activities in private sponsorship, advocacy, education, and humanitarian aid. It concluded that both demonstrate significant influence in the refugee governance in their respective country and demonstrated engagement with governance actors by occupying both invited and invented spaces in conducting their activities. Nevertheless, challenges and limitations arose regarding the small-scale nature of grassroots operation which is unmatched with the resource needed to fully reform overarching refugee governance to be more effective for the protection and rights of queer refugees. The responsibilities to better manage the refugee governance in Australia and Canada should more fairly fall to the government. GQROs should exist to assist and advocate on behalf of refugees and not carry out what the government has been mandated to do by the people and what they are legally obliged to undertake as signatories to the 1951 Refugee Convention.

The Urgency of Establishing Funding Regulations for Refugees by Faith-Based Organizations in Indonesia

Fitria (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah)

More than 12,000 refugees in Indonesia face a life of uncertainty, as the country is not considered a destination for them. Moreover, Indonesia needs more adequate regulations regarding refugees. In practice, handling refugee issues in Indonesia relies on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Unfortunately, most refugees cannot return to their home countries, primarily due to ongoing conflicts, with only about 1–1.5% being resettled in third countries. Consequently, they remain in Indonesia for years, even decades, without clear prospects for their future. This paper analyzes the urgency of establishing funding regulation for refugees by civil society, mainly through faith based organizations (FBOs), viewed through Jacques Derrida's theory. In this research, a socio legal method was employed, which examines law through the lens of social phenomena. Draws upon 15 semi-structured interviews with FBOs leaders, staff, UNHCR Staff and refugees living in greater Jakarta, the research team's key findings are as follows: first, the interviewed refugees, having undergone several migrations, find themselves "stranded" in Indonesia. Although they feel safe, they lament the lack of a dignified life. Second, the significant role of FBOs is highlighted when the UNHCR and IOM cannot handle refugee issues optimally. Third, these facts raise the need for regulations concerning donations by civil society, especially FBOs for refugees, to ensure more humane treatment. This aligns with Derrida's perspective on hospitality, which seeks a balance between the extremes of neglect and boundless kindness (unconditional hospitality) towards the presence of foreigners in a country, in this case, refugees in Indonesia. Given these points, it is crucial to establish regulations related to funding by FBOs and individuals. The content of such rules should include the accountability of fund collection and distribution, the rights and obligations of the parties involved, government responsibilities, the

mechanism of fund distribution, including conditions that must not contain proselytizing aspects, and the categorization of refugees eligible for assistance.

Co-Production Strategies for Venezuelan Migrant Integration in Lima's Labour Market

Agnieszka Olter-Castillo (University of Warsaw)

The unstable economic and political situation in Venezuela over the last decades has precipitated a multidimensional crisis (Blouin et al., 2019), resulting in one of the largest displacement processes globally and the most extensive in Latin America's recent history (Alvarez et al., 2022; Mauricia, 2019). With more than 7.7 million Venezuelan migrants as of November 2023, this crisis ranks alongside those in Syria and Ukraine, marking it as one of the three significant modern mass migration processes globally (Mazza & Feraro, 2022). Fernández-Rodríguez & Freier (2024) describe it as the world's largest and most rapidly growing displacement crisis, with a notable majority – 84% or 6.5 million – settling in the countries within Latin America. Peru, after Colombia, emerges as a crucial host, accommodating over 1.54 million Venezuelan migrants, with 1.1 million residing in the capital, comprising approximately 10% of Metropolitan Lima's population (Pereyra et al., 2022). The influx of Venezuelan migrants has posed complex challenges for both the migrants themselves (Guerrero et al., 2020) and the host society (García et al., 2020; Campana et al., 2023). Various actors, including state and non-state actors, have engaged in a joint effort of co-production to support and integrate the Venezuelan population. Co-production can be viewed as a model that presupposes an active and participatory population engaged in shaping public services. This involvement enhances the quality and efficiency of the services provided and ensures they are customised to meet the actual needs of the population (Albert et al., 2023; Osborne et al., 2016; Brudney & England, 1983). In migration processes, co-production facilitates the provision of public goods and services by collaborating with immigrants' representatives who serve as intermediaries, ensuring that immigrants feel represented and can influence decisions within state bodies (Ehrhardt, 2022). Conducted in the second half of 2022, this study employs a qualitative, cross-sectional explanatory case study analysis to examine co-production efforts for integrating Venezuelan immigrants into the Peruvian labour market under decent work conditions. It incorporates documentary analysis and in-depth interviews with 22 representatives from public, private, multilateral, and civil society organizations. The findings highlight the crucial role of organised civil society in co-production, which, together with international organisations, seeks to complement governmental actions. Grassroots organisations, especially those led by Venezuelans, often act as the initial contact for immigrants, effectively interpreting their needs and enhancing communication. They also mobilise resources, foster dialogue with governmental entities, and create integration opportunities. Furthermore, the practice of co-production generates shared learning, and expands capacity to maximise the potential contribution of immigrant human capital to the host country. The goal is to transition from a vicious cycle of human capital waste to a virtuous cycle of human capital gain, achieved through the implementation of fair practices and the provision of decent employment opportunities. The study suggests that enhancing the capacity of migrant-based organisations and advocating for inclusive policies that recognise the rights and fully utilise the potential of immigrants are essential steps forward.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB
Venue : Room 4
Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 14

Global Agenda: Border and Migration 2
IASFM20 New Panel 5

Preventing Violence and Exploitation in forced migration: The Effectiveness or a Rights-Based Approach in The Ukrainian Refugee Crisis

Kiril Sharapov (Edinburgh Napier University)

This paper investigates the impact of a rights-based approach to forced migration in the context of the Ukrainian crisis, by examining the dynamics of human trafficking among Ukrainian refugees in Poland and Romania. Within a matter of weeks following the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, various UN agencies issued multiple warnings about the increased risk of human trafficking among women and children fleeing Ukraine. The 2022 report by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime suggested that over 100,000 Ukrainian victims could be trafficked to Europe alone. However, these dire predictions did not materialize. In its March 2023 report, UN Migration acknowledged that despite the ongoing war's associated risks, no increase was observed in the number of trafficked persons identified in Ukraine and the surrounding/host countries. This paper is based on research conducted by the author in collaboration with UN Migration between November 2023 and March 2025 to explore the nature and extent of vulnerability of Ukrainian refugees to abuse, violence, and exploitation, including human trafficking, in Romania and Poland—two countries bordering Ukraine that took in hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian refugees. A project-based report is expected to be issued by UN Migration in July 2024. The research employed a multi-method approach, including interviews with key governmental and non-governmental informants in both countries and a survey of more than 700 Ukrainian nationals, as part of the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix exercise. This paper directly responds to the first theme of the conference – Global Agenda for International Migrations – as one of the first empirical studies to assess the effectiveness of the rights-based approach in the context of forced migration linked to the war in Ukraine in mitigating risks of violence, abuse, and exploitation, including human trafficking risks, among refugees. The paper will interpret its findings through Estevez's (2012) framework of decolonised global justice, underlining the importance of respecting human rights in mobility. It will also interrogate the concept of vulnerability in forced migration, arguing that it should not be seen as an inherent social characteristic but as a consequence of impunity that directly perpetuates exploitation and violence against migrants, and as a result of 'traditional' exclusionary approaches to managing migration. The paper will demonstrate that access to social and economic rights in both countries (available via the EU's temporary protection regime) played a crucial role in preventing severe abuse and exploitation. However, ineffective enforcement of existing legislation and protection regimes, challenges in integration and inclusion, and broader societal attitudes resulted in some Ukrainian refugees experiencing a state of limited protection. The paper will draw on Povinelli's (2011) theorising of neoliberal abandonment and 'bracketed' recognition of rights and vulnerabilities in this context.

“Fleeing the War across Oceans”: Using Photovoice with Ukrainian Displaced People in Western Australia

Jaya Dantas and Tetiana Bogachenko (Curtin University)

[Also at Creative Display Exhibition Room](#)

Since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, over 8 million Ukrainians have been forced to flee their homes and seek refuge abroad. While most found shelter in the neighbouring countries, some crossed the ocean to seek safety in faraway countries, such as the USA, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. As of 24 March 2024, more than 11,400 Ukrainians displaced by the war had entered Australia through the humanitarian program and other visa pathways. Relevant and effective support in emergency forced displacement requires insights into the lived experiences of those who have fled their homes. Further, despite the war in Ukraine now entering its third year, it is almost non-present in the news and public spaces anymore; hence the need to raise awareness of the ongoing experiences of displaced people and their families in Australia among the wider society remains.

The Ukrainian Photovoice project was undertaken by community partners and Curtin University working together in 2022 and 2023. The project's main aim were: 1) to develop a greater understanding of the experiences of Ukrainian displaced persons (DPs) since fleeing the war and transitioning to life in Western Australia (WA) using Photovoice, 2) to examine the impact of forced displacement on the wellbeing of Ukrainian DPs and their settlement experiences in WA, 3) to produce a travelling and online exhibition from the photographs shared by the participants and finally, 4) to propose recommendations for government and policy makers that can support DPs escaping war.

We used participatory methods of photovoice and reflective interviews in this study. We invited Ukrainian DPs as well as relevant supportive organisations to share their experiences through photovoice, interviews and photos. There were 22 Ukrainian participants who were Ukrainian DPs, and their families were also involved in the development of ideas for the photographs. The participants attended regular in-person workshops with the research team and photographer as well as online sessions, and together they co-developed the Photovoice exhibition. The project resulted in the creation of a photo exhibition that is being displayed online and in communities across Western Australia.

The findings of this study highlighted several themes: the sudden and complex life changes due to the war, challenging journeys to safety across borders and oceans, challenges of settling in the new place, initial support in Australia, psychological support, communication barriers, skills transfer and finding work, and reflections on the future.

Policy recommendations proposed by the participants themselves were related to additional support and included: less complex visa processes, certainty about the future, providing information about Ukraine by people with lived experience, understanding conflict and its historical roots, understanding challenges faced by DPs during an ongoing war, provision of ongoing psychological and employment support and a list of available support resources. Finally, providing opportunities for DPs to meet, socialise, and support each other is one of the effective ways to facilitate tailored social, and psychological support.

Indian Migrants in Lithuania and Their Geopolitical Attitudes in the Context of the War in Ukraine

Kristina Garalyte (Vilnius University)

This paper presents the preliminary findings of a research project funded by the Research Council of Lithuania, titled 'Ethnic, National, and Transnational Identities and Geopolitical Attitudes of Third-Country Nationals in Lithuania in the Context of the War in Ukraine.' The project focuses on three migrant communities in Lithuania: Ukrainians, Belarusians, and Indians. This presentation specifically delves into the experiences and geopolitical perspectives of the Indian migrant community in Lithuania. Christophe Jaffrelot highlights a distinctive consensus in India regarding the country's neutrality, influenced by India's longstanding relationship with Russia in defense and energy sectors, alongside its current portrayal as a global power capable of balancing geopolitics while emphasizing strategic autonomy. India's reluctance to support Ukraine is further fueled by post-colonial grievances against Western policies, particularly highlighted by the perceived 'amoral' U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan (Jaffrelot, 2022). These sentiments significantly influence public discourse in India and subsequently shape citizens' perspectives on the war. However, the shift in environment upon immigration to Lithuania, a staunch supporter of Ukraine and a nation where the fear of war shapes daily life, poses intriguing questions. How Indian migrants in Lithuania perceive the conflict, the extent to which their views are shaped by India's official stance as portrayed in the Indian media, and how their geopolitical attitudes and sense of identity evolve amidst the proximity to war in their new surroundings?

Private memory on public concern: Revisiting proximity to death in forced migration through ethnography as care

Paolo Boccagni (University of Trento)

Death upon border crossing involves moral and political obligations to the missing – bodies to be found, names to be given back, commemoration sites and events to be set up, state and border violence to struggle against. However, it also demands care about the living, including border crossers who survived and are now as far from death as their young age allows, while being trapped in the "waithood" of asylum. Based on my fieldwork with young male asylum seekers who risked losing their lives on their way to Italy, I interrogate the potential of ethnographic research as a form of care about them, and a tool to expand the moral and political field of contention around death in migration. This starts from "guesting" with refugees who are also survivors, as a requirement to make sense of their silences and, when appropriate, be witness to their recollections of past close encounters with death. This is typically a matter of personal risk or, at best, of witnessing the death of someone else. While survivors like my interlocutors have all reasons to leave their "bad thoughts" behind, the latter are haunting anyway. In fact, once properly approached, they can be turned into a source of claims-making – the more individual and private voices are connected with each other on a larger scale, by way of sociological imagination.

Collecting these voices and writing them down is a way of care for personal stories that might otherwise get lost – and indirectly, for people themselves. It is also part of a potential collective effort to foreground death in migration as a transnational social question – an issue that, while calling for specific responsibilities and accountability at state level, can only be addressed through transnational forms of concern, debate, and action. This calls for expanding into the microfield of personal encounters with death, tracing the commonalities across them, and adding up to a collective configuration of suffering, risking, and oblivion (including voluntary one) that demands justice, starting from proper memory and acknowledgement. Respectful and open-ended storytelling has a potential to reassert the moral worth of stories, and lives, that fall out of the state-shaped boundaries of moral responsibility to the other, including the dying or dead one.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB
Venue : Room 5
Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 15

Global Agenda: Legal Framework and Governance 2

IASFM20 New Panel 6

Reframing Immigration Detention in Indonesia: A Human Rights Approach on Refugee and Asylum Seekers

Yunita (Universitas Katolik Parahyangan), Atika Yuanita Paraswaty (SUAKA), Rizka Argadianti Rachmah (Independent researcher)

In contrast to criminal proceedings, Indonesia's immigration detention is administered in an administrative capacity, necessitating solely a written determination from the Minister or an appointed Immigration Officer. Immigration detainees may be held in custody by the designated immigration official or minister for a maximum of ten years, or until their deportation. The immigration may require the detainee to report regularly once they surpass the 10-year threshold. Despite Indonesia not being a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention, it has enacted legislation requiring the accommodation of asylum seekers and refugees pending resettlement without scrutinizing their residence permits, thus must not be subjected to arrest and detention. Nevertheless, a considerable number of asylum seekers and refugees, who have been living independently continue to be arrested and subjected to procedures that resemble detention. By employing normative juridical approaches, this study aims to reframe the process of immigration detention in Indonesia concerning asylum seekers and refugees from a human rights perspective. The research indicates that the immigration detention regulation in Indonesia violates human rights and has consequences for asylum seekers and refugees. The imposition of reporting obligations and a maximum detention period of ten years are deemed excessive. Furthermore, the lack of rigorous supervision regarding the protocols and indicators used in detention assessment fosters a setting that is favorable for the abuse of authority in this sphere. It is questionable to regard immigration detention solely as an administrative procedure aimed at restoring objects to their initial state. As a result, it is critical to reevaluate the concept of immigration detention in Indonesia to protect human rights and effectively address these issues. This research recommended that administrative detention protocols be strengthened by adhering to court procedure. Rights of a detainee, including legal aid and a translator are required to safeguard detainees' rights in accordance with the civil and political rights covenant ratified by Indonesia. Thus, there will be fewer instances of power abuse conducted by immigration, including to refugees and asylum seekers.

The Politics of Local Authorities in Governing Refugees in Indonesia: The Case of Makassar and Jakarta

Hana Naufanita (Universitas Indonesia), Annisa Amalia (Universitas Tanjungpura)

Indonesia is a non-signatory country to the 1951 Refugee Convention. Since the increased influx of refugees into Indonesia in 2015, President Jokowi signed Presidential Regulation No. 125 of 2016 based on humanitarian considerations. In this regulation, local governments are initiated to have functional role in handling the day-to-day operations of refugee settlements. The implementation is not free from obstacles such as unspecific roles and responsibilities, insufficient budget allocation, and strong legalistic and security points of view at the national and local levels. As a result, humanitarian idealism

faces solidarity fatigue experienced at the sub-national level. Assuming that both national and sub-national levels of Indonesian government are vigilant but sympathetic towards refugees, we raise fundamental questions: Why would Indonesian local governments shelter foreign refugees in the first place despite having regional autonomy to reject or negotiate their roles? How do they interpret their roles? Do these cities have a global political outlook? How do local governments give meaning to the “solidarity for refugees” discourse? How do power relations take place between local and national governments? With the increased awareness of the importance of local authorities in transit countries like Indonesia, understanding local politics is crucial to avoid potential conflict and implement efficient and effective intervention in the field. This study examines whether local governments have a global outlook, represents the Global South’s model of the ‘local turn’ in refugee management and protection, and analyzes power relations in the refugee multi-level governance. This article will apply qualitative research with a discourse analysis strategy with a desk review of existing documents and media coverage as well as interviews with sub-national representatives. By highlighting the narratives on the attitude, role, and worldview of local governments in handling refugees in Makassar and Jakarta, we expect to unveil the motives and orientations regarding refugee affairs. This attempt is significant in identifying variables that might increase local authorities’ political will to treat refugees more precisely.

A New Bridge in a Prolonged Journey: Can Labour Migration Support the Asylum Process in Indonesia?

Maria Rosiana Sedjahtera (International Organization for Migration)

The existing challenges in providing durable solutions in Indonesia have resulted in a prolonged journey for refugees within the country. Therefore, the emergence of the Labour Mobility Pathway (LMP) as a complementary approach could become a new bridge in Indonesia’s asylum process. However, a significant challenge lies in the continued differentiation between refugee and labour migrant categories by various countries, which often hesitate to give the LMP a chance as it would blur the policy domains between giving protection and the right to exercise agency. Rooted in the 1951 Refugee Convention, these categorisations have influenced policies and academic research, significantly impacting the refugee’s life in accessing their rights. This research demonstrates the need to re-evaluate such categorisations and labels by showcasing how the LMP transcends these distinctions. The study involves interviews with the LMP team in Indonesia, a collaborative effort made by UNHCR Indonesia and Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB). By deconstructing these categories and granting refugees access to their labour migration rights, this research reveals the potential of LMP in facilitating third country resettlement for refugees. Furthermore, this research offers a comprehensive examination of LMP’s operations, its development in Indonesia, and the current situation, making significant contributions to the field of migration studies. Short description: The ongoing challenges in providing durable solutions for refugees in Indonesia have resulted in prolonged periods of uncertainty for many. As Indonesia is not a signatory of the 1951 Refugee Convention, many refugees have been living here for 10 years or more without being able to exercise many basic rights. Therefore, the emergence of the Labour Mobility Pathway (LMP) as a complementary approach could become a new bridge in Indonesia’s asylum process. However, a significant challenge lies in the continued differentiation between refugee and labour migrant categories by various countries, which often hesitate to give the LMP a chance as it would blur the policy domains between giving protection and the right to exercise agency. What are the implications of this for the LMP program, and how has it been practiced so far for refugees who wish to be resettled from Indonesia as soon as possible?

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB

Venue : Room 6

Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 16

Faith in Transit: Navigating the many roles of religion within the migration industry (Part 2)

Antje Missbach (Bielefeld University)

Luigi Achilli (Bielefeld University)

Melissa Phillips (Western Sydney University)

Hijra and haj – Islamic Concepts of Travel and Rohingya refugees’ immobilities in Asia

Miriam Jaehn (CSEAS, Kyoto University)

In this paper, I try to understand Rohingya’s experiences of im-mobility and displacement in Asia through Islamic concepts of travel. My reflections are based on ethnographic fieldwork with Rohingya refugees across South and Southeast Asia and their oral and written narratives. I aim to understand how to engage with Islamic concepts of travel and their ethics to make sense of Rohingya’s hardships in situations of protracted displacement. First, the paper focuses on the concepts of the haj and hijra. The haj is the pilgrimage to Mecca that poses a moral obligation but that also offers a sense of purification and deep religiosity. The hijra is the journey of flight and escape to Mecca by prophet Mohammad. The paper will address the following questions: How does the hijra influence Rohingya’s understanding of their own escape into exile? How do the haj and hijra, their underlying ethics, shape Rohingya’s travel routes and Rohingya’s involvement in the facilitation of flight into exile? How does Rohingya’s in-ability to perform the haj influence their self-perception in exile as Muslims? I will argue that the haj and hijra serve to understand Rohingya’s self-perception as a community of suffering in exile. It is these religious concepts and their ethics that allow Rohingya to reinvoke connections between themselves and the broader ummah and call out their sustained marginalization and need for support. Yet, there are also limits to their applicability and usefulness to Rohingya as a dispersed refugee diaspora.

Muslim solidarity towards refugees in Malaysia: state rhetoric and responsibility diffusion

Aslam Abd Jalil (International Institute of Public Policy and Management, Universiti Malaya)

Malaysia has no asylum framework and does not officially recognise refugee status despite hosting hundreds of thousands of forced migrants for the past few decades. Shaped by Islamic values in its administration and foreign policy, Malaysia has been championing Muslim ummah issues in the global fora. Muslim solidarity has been mobilised by the state and the public in hosting Muslim refugees which fulfills both religious duty and humanitarian responsibility. In 2015, the Malaysian Government initiated the Syrian Migrant Temporary Relocation Programme (PPSMS) to host 3,000 refugees by proactively resettling them from abroad and reactively absorbing those who were already in Malaysia. Although it was the government initiative, the faith based non-governmental organisations (NGOs) were given the responsibilities to provide support and basic services to the PPSMS participants in terms of their documentation, education, healthcare, and employment. This presentation explores how the state rhetoric of Muslim solidarity and universal humanitarian values has not been translated and it highlights the critical roles played by faith-based NGOs in filling in the gaps. I argue that, following the neoliberal logic of refugees being expected to be autonomous and independent individuals, the state has outsourced its obligations to NGOs in navigating the complexities of Malaysia’s harsh migration regime to provide support and assistance to refugees. Drawing on an ongoing fieldwork since November 2019 in the Klang Valley area, Peninsular Malaysia,

I critically examine how the Malaysian state is mobilising religious solidarity narrative in welcoming select refugees and simultaneously diffusing its responsibilities to NGOs in policy implementation.

The Politics of Muslim Brotherhood: Role of Religion, Spiritual Leaders and Religious Networks in Everyday Life of Rohingya in Malaysia

Andika Wahab (Institute of Malaysian and International Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia)

Religion and religious community provide a sense of belonging and togetherness, while also help refugees cope with the traumas and experience of discrimination associated with forced migration. Other literature suggests that religion offers a sanctuary and space of relief, and a source of inspiration for space making in often hostile environments. Generally, existing knowledge tends to overly romanticize the role of religion, though it is rightly so in various aspects of refugees' everyday life. In reality, nevertheless, religion can be a double-edged sword. It can be directed towards strengthening refugees' life and well-being, but it can also be abused as a tool to persuade, manipulate and coerce vulnerable refugees for self- or group interests, or worst, to inspire hatred and religious obsession. This study aims to further understand the role of religion and spiritual leaders and networks among Rohingyas in Malaysia. It first attempts to explain the complex profiles of the Rohingya spiritual leaders and networks, and why and how they are formed and connected with the ordinary Rohingya. It is then followed by explaining their functioning capability and dynamic interaction with the broader religious networks as well as formal and informal religious (and non-religious) institutions. The final part then explains how spiritual leaders and networks use religion, leveraging the slogan of "helping our Muslim brotherhood" – as a tool to represent the voice of ordinary Rohingyas and to act on their behalf – for good. However, disproportionate and unethical use of religious sentiments produces exclusion and separation, and eventually creates different classes of Rohingyas, who are more privileged (in contrast, vulnerable) than others. Besides, some spiritual leaders and networks tend to use their position of authority, respect and influence by extracting lucrative profits (monetary and other incentives) in exchange for various religious- and non-religious needs and services provided (e.g., religious education, marriage arrangement, family law advice, refugee registration, and community protection). Interestingly, sharing similar Islamic tradition (and teaching) of Sunni between Rohingyas and the hosting society among majority Malay Muslims somehow justifies (and to some extent, normalizes) the everyday functions of Rohingya religious leaders and networks.

Religion within the migration industry: scoping understandings of faith in studies of transit

Melissa Phillips (Western Sydney University)

The intricate relationship between religion and migration has gained significant scholarly attention in recent years. A body of literature has focused on the roles that religious beliefs, practices, and communities play in the experiences of migrants. Much of this research has concentrated on understanding how religion acts as a facilitator or barrier to integration and assimilation of migrants within new communities (Foner and Alba 2008; Borja 2023; Mavelli and Wilson 2017; Horstmann and Jung 2021). Studies have detailed the ways in which religious institutions provide social support and aid cultural adaptation (Scribner et al. 2020; Meyer and van der Veer 2021; Saunders et al. 2016). However, the ways in which religion informs migration processes remains under-explored. This paper scopes the nature and roles of religious networks and infrastructures in navigating the staggered processes of irregular(ized) migration, border crossings, and the prolonged periods of liminality and "stuckedness" that characterize contemporary migrant journeys. Using a case study of current grey

literature on irregular migration and transit, it will explore the dynamics of faith-based solidarity, intra-religious, and cross-religious charity, and mobility facilitation. It offers a future research agenda as to how religious affiliations and networks provide spiritual solace and act as pragmatic aids in the logistics of migration, offering resources, guidance, and safe havens and critiques secular forms of migration support that may overlook opportunities for faith-based solidarity. By probing the distinct ways faith communities mobilize to support migrants, the theological underpinnings of such mobilizations, and the implications for inter-religious dialogue and cooperation this paper suggests that faith is an under-investigated dimension of migration that can influence the journey of migrants and offer a more holistic understanding of migration beyond the endpoints of integration and assimilation.

Displacement, Resistance and Religion in the Myanmar–Thai Borderlands

Alexander Horstmann (University of Bielefeld)

The escalation of the violent suppression of the democracy movement and the associated atrocities against the ethnic minorities in the Myanmar borderlands have caused massive confusion and displacement across the border. In this situation, religious NGOs and humanitarian organizations become important players for affording protection and shelter for displaced families in the villages, spontaneous settlements and camps. Christian local organizations have the experience and critical humanitarian infrastructure to help people re-organizing their lives in the liberated areas and facilitate a safe passage to camps and safehouses in Northwestern Thailand. They also express the migration in Christian terms. The paper will look into the Christian response to existential crisis, the humanitarian activities, missionization and patronage. The research questions are: How do Christian groups and NGOs organize their humanitarian activities? What kind of relations they weave with displaced people? What kind of expectations the humanitarian organizations have on the displaced? How do Christian groups provide shelter, medical supplies, education, and how do they facilitate safe passage to refugee camps and settlements/ safehouses in Thailand?

Horstmann, Alexander and Jin-Heon Jung (eds) 2015. Building Noah's Ark for Migrants, Refugees and Religious Communities. New York: Palgrave

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB

Venue : Room 7

Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 17

Construction and Reconstruction of Displaced Persons, Migrants and Refugees (Part 2)

Ulrike Schultz (Friedensau Adventist University)

Kwaku Arhin-Sam (Friedensau Adventist University)

The local people's responses towards migrants, categorization, integration and conflict in West Kalimantan

Adityo Darmawan Sudagung, Viza Juliansyah, and Desca Thea Purnama (Universitas Tanjungpura)

This paper aims to understand different categorizations towards migrants that have influenced the integration and conflictual relations between the locals and the migrants in West Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. West Kalimantan, one of Indonesia's provinces, has received migrants from the transmigration policy since the 1950s due to its large area, low population and forestry potential. The region experienced hostile ethnic conflicts, which persisted until the 2000s, between Maduranese and the local Malays and Dayaks. These conflicts arose from various categorisations, such as ethnic and cultural identities, work ethics, and economic rivalry between the locals and migrants. However, besides the negative responses, migrants from different ethnic groups, such as Chinese, Javanese, Sundanese, and Bugis, in several cities of West Kalimantan received positively by the locals, which led to social integration through marriage and cross cultural communication. This research employed qualitative methods with the case study of migrant categorisations in West Kalimantan. The data was collected through literature studies on books, journal articles, online websites, newspaper articles, and government policy documents related to the case of transmigration policy, ethnic conflicts and integration process in West Kalimantan, Indonesia. In addition to the literature data, the authors conducted observation and interviews within six months in 2022 and 2023 at the border village of Sanggau Regency and Pontianak City to understand the integration and conflictual relations between the locals and the migrants. By examining the case study in West Kalimantan, we discovered that categorization rises due to different identities attributed to the migrants and the local people. Both local people's collective identity and the migrants' attributed identity, such as ethnic, religious, and roles in economic sectors, influenced the locals' negative perception towards the migrants and vice versa.

Beyond Categories: Mobility in the Sudans after the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)

Ulrike Schultz (Friedensau Adventist University)

It is often argued that research on forced migration is shaped by the categorization system of policy makers and international organization. This does not only make some people invisible, as their situation does not match the official categorization system but also constraints the understanding of people's lives and their mobility within a lifespan. Taking the case of the (South) Sudanese, who left the Northern part of Sudan after the Peace agreement in 2005, I will show that the categories such as being a returnee, an IDP or a refugee are fluid. Moreover, conventional categorization of migration research in international versus internal migration or forced versus voluntary migration are twisted upside down in the lives of my interlocutors as South Sudanese lost their citizenship and became foreigners in their home country. The paper is based on long term (from 2007 – 2019) multi-sided

ethnography and will use the case of a family who left their home in Khartoum to settle in Juba, South Sudan but ended up in different places establishing a translocal family life. The paper will explore shifting patterns of mobility and look how they relate to new forms of belonging, which transcend common categories and discourses.

The politics of protections and rights: understanding ‘protection’ and ‘agency’ among South Sudanese refugees in Khartoum (Sudan)

Mohamed A. G. Bakhit (University of Khartoum)

The article intends to investigate how social protections and development programmes in open refugee camps have been designed and implemented in a very specific way by the three actors involved (refugee population, UNHCR/NGOs, and local government/COR officers). Also, it examines the perceptions and ideologies behind the particular selection of social protections and refugees rights, and who actually determines the priorities and takes on the responsibilities involved. The paper looked on the agency of refugee population in order to investigate the relations between the three agents and the provision of protection and services programmes. The paper argues that that refugees constantly negotiate their categorization in order to get access to rights and social services. Moreover, there is an apparent contestations between how refugee population conceptualize their rights and what other actors - UNHCR/NGOs with the support of COR/Government and the local mediators (Sultans) - are designing and perceiving as kind of protections and services. This ever-evolving contestation and categorization shapes the way refugee population conceptualize all other actors, as just ‘denying their rights’ instead of ‘protecting’ them.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB
Venue : Room 8 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 18

Global Agenda: Migration Governance and International relations

IASFM20 New Panel 7

Geopolitics, the refugee regime, and the betrayal of the rules-based international order

James Milner (Carleton University)

In response to Theme 1 of IASFM20, this paper critically examines how the functioning of the global refugee regime is intertwined with contemporary discussions about threats to the “rules-based international order” established by Western powers in the aftermath of World War Two. The global refugee regime was one of the many global governance arrangements to emerge in the context of the post-war order created by the US and its allies. Comprised of norms (such as the 1951 Refugee Convention) and an institution (UNHCR), the regime was intended to facilitate cooperation to ensure protection for refugees and find lasting solutions. By any objective measure, however, the regime is not able to perform these functions. The current state of the regime is both a result of new geopolitical fault lines, both North-South and East-West, and a context in which we can observe and explain the erosion of the “rules-based international order”. This paper examines the relationship between geopolitics, the refugee regime and the betrayal of the rules based international order in three parts. First, the paper examines the geopolitics of the establishment of the refugee regime and the commitments made by Western states to sustain a weak refugee regime. Second, the paper examines how this commitment frayed following the end of the Cold War and the declining political utility of refugees. Third, the paper examines the differentiation present in contemporary responses to forced migration and the selectivity of support from Western states. Drawing on qualitative research over the past 20 years on the politics of the global refugee regime and contemporary discussions on the decline of the rules-based international order, the paper ultimately argues that the regime presents a critical context in which the current state of international cooperation can be observed and explained. The paper concludes by arguing that understanding the shortcomings of the regime within this geopolitical context highlights new strategies on how power asymmetries within the regime could be addressed and the core intentions of the regime ultimately realized.

State Control, Transnational Partnerships and Local Actors: Tracing the Landscape of Tanzania's Refugee Hosting Record, 1961–2021

Stephen Osei-Owusu (Carleton University)

This presentation is derived an oral history interview as part of a collaborative project between Dignity Kwanza, a Tanzanian Civil Society Organization which specializes in legal aid to refugees and LERRN, Carleton University, to commemorate sixty years of Tanzania's refugee hosting experience. It discusses the growth of Tanzanian refugee hosting experiences from when it was a British colony until 1961, to when it became an independent state. The major focuses of this presentation rest on Tanzanian refugee hosting preferences from an “open door” to a “restrictionist” policy, and a call for adequate support structures for local civil society organizations which partner government and international organizations in the offer of relief services to refugees in Tanzania.

Kurdish Women's Self-Organizing against Displacement and Dispossession

Gulay Kilicaslan (Carleton University)

Displacement and dispossession have been the primary tools of the Turkish settler-colonial state to establish territorial control and body sovereignty in Northern Kurdistan. In this sense, the processes of forced migration and dispossession are highly gendered as land loss and assimilation have been deployed by the Turkish state against Kurds through targeted violence against women. Yet, the Kurdish women's movement has developed diverse strategies to counter these colonial tools of the Turkish state and strengthen their anti-colonial struggle by self-organizing in the urban centers of the cities in the Middle East and across Europe. In the aftermath of the PKK's declaration of ceasefire in 2000, the Kurdish freedom movement has undergone an ideological and organizational transformation from 'state building' to 'society building' based on principles of democratic confederalism. In this period, Kurdish women particularly displaced women took the leading role in enacting the new organizational model in their localities where they were resettled. Displaced Kurdish women formed women's collectives, cooperatives, neighbourhood assemblies, civil society organizations and community centers in both Northern Kurdistan and Europe to mobilize against displacement, dispossession and carceral immobility. Their self-organizing aimed at transforming the Kurdish society in a revolutionary way that went beyond the *legal mobilization* relying on a human rights-based perspective and offered a decolonizing approach for the formation of Kurdish civil society in the 2000s. Drawing on two years of ethnographic, archival, and activist research in Northern Kurdistan, Turkey, France, Germany, and Switzerland, this paper will discuss the impacts of forced displacement and dispossession on the organizational dynamics of the Kurdish women's freedom movement since the 2000s. It will analyze the role of displaced Kurdish women's self-organizing in enacting the organizational model of democratic confederalism as an antidote to the patriarchal, capitalist, and colonial nation-states as well as their tools of displacement and dispossession.

Navigating Protection of Forcibly Displaced Women in Muslim-majority Contexts: Analysis of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

Sandra Pertek (University of Birmingham)

While the number of conflict and climate-induced displaced people has reached unprecedented levels, the global refugee governance system is falling short in its capacity to manage increasing forced migration flows. This paper discusses the need to move from Eurocentric/Western models of refugee management to Global South actors, focusing on the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the world's second-largest intergovernmental body. At the intersection of gender and forced migration studies, it critically analyses the opportunities and challenges faced within the OIC ecosystem in supporting forcibly displaced women and girls. Methods included interdisciplinary literature reviews on gender, religion, forced displacement, and the OIC, alongside discourse analysis of the OIC humanitarian resolutions and cultural and social resolutions (1979–2022) from the Council of Foreign Ministers annual sessions and OIC Ministerial Conferences on Women (2006–2021). Key terms included: women in humanitarian emergencies and displacement; protection; and violence against women. Findings indicate that although the OIC sets out multiple policy commitments and organisational initiatives with potential to support displaced populations, it lacks a refugee support mechanism. The OIC's approach to displaced women is shaped by multiple resolutions and action plans, and focuses on their humanitarian protection, frequently referring to Islamic values. To advance responses to global forced displacement in Muslim-majority contexts, global refugee governance and the international humanitarian system require knowledge of and sensitivity to faith values which are widely referenced across a range of OIC instruments. This paper suggests that the OIC might consider developing an integrated framework for mainstreaming responsibility for

displaced populations as a complementary mechanism and a significant contribution to forced migration governance.

Constructing a Regional Refugee Protection: An Analysis of Southeast Asia's Approach to Refugee Protection and Institutional Development

Heeseo Lee (Ewha Womans University Graduate School of International Studies)

The East Asian region faces multifaceted challenges concerning forced migration, including the adverse ramifications of marine environment privatization on small-scale fisheries and the intricate nature of refugee protection amidst ongoing crises. This panel discussion will delve into these interconnected issues, scrutinizing the socio-economic and political determinants exacerbating vulnerability and displacement. This discussion's primary objective is to comprehensively comprehend the intertwined challenges of socio-economic deprivation, traditional state-centric governance, and institutional deficits that profoundly impact East Asia, especially in Southeast Asia. By addressing the socio-economic impacts of fisheries commodification and the political and institutional impediments to adequate refugee protection, the discussion aspires to elucidate strategies for fostering sustainable development and human security in the region. Through interdisciplinary research and case studies, the panel aims to offer practical insights and recommendations to enhance the resilience and well-being of vulnerable communities in East Asia, including Southeast Asia.

Pushed to the Margins – Rohingyas in the Silicon Valley of South India, Bengaluru

Roshni Sharma (St. Joseph's University)

Bengaluru, the capital of Karnataka in South India a rapidly urbanising metropolis, presents both opportunities and challenges for displaced populations. Despite the city's reputation for technological advancement and economic growth, the Rohingya community experiences systemic marginalisation and exclusion in the city of Bengaluru in the south Indian state of Karnataka. The Rohingyas, having fled ethnic cleansing in their homeland, face a new set of hurdles in this urban environment. While many of the Rohingyas have been here in Bengaluru since 2012, they still struggle to get access to basic services such as healthcare and education, employment opportunities, and protection against discrimination and exploitation. The plight of the Rohingyas in Bengaluru exemplifies the challenges and possibilities of extending urban rights to refugees. The framework of the "right to the city" is employed to analyse the extent to which Rohingya refugees can claim their rights to urban space, participation, and resources in the city. This paper seeks to highlight the contrast between the city's global image and the harsh realities faced by these marginalised communities. Through a combination of qualitative interviews, field observations, and policy analysis, the research sheds light on the institutional barriers and social prejudices that push the Rohingyas to the fringes of urban life.

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB
Venue : Room 9 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 19

A Right for Refugees to be Heard? The potential of international law reform

Baqir Bayani (Act for Peace)

This roundtable will showcase and discuss a new independent declaration that addresses the right of refugees to participate in decision-making processes that impact them. The roundtable invites participants to engage with representatives of the global working group who actively contributed to the drafting of the declaration and to reflect on what impact the declaration could have on advancing the principle and practice of meaningful refugee participation in the pursuit of refugee rights. In recent years, there has been increased recognition globally of the importance and value of meaningfully including refugees in decision-making processes that affect them. Yet, there remains a lack of clarity in international law and policy as to how this should be best pursued. Paragraph 34 of the Global Compact on Refugees – which is arguably the strongest statement on refugee participation in international refugee law to date – highlights that ‘responses are most effective when they actively and meaningfully engage those they are intended to protect and assist’. However, it does not offer detailed guidance as to how this engagement should occur. This roundtable will bring together refugee, academic, and international law experts from across the globe and will creatively consider some of the specific content that such a declaration could address, drawing on lessons learned from other areas of international human rights law. The roundtable will also explore the intersectionality of human rights laws and their relevance to refugee participation, as well as discuss the limitations of existing frameworks and soft law instruments. While it is believed that a new independent declaration could play a foundational role in establishing clear principles, addressing gaps and grey areas, and promoting best practice for actors to engage with and listen to refugees in decisions that affect them, it is hoped the roundtable provides an opportunity to reflect and strategize on these opportunities in a way that could ultimately offer greater power to those who are commonly found to be powerless in the international law system.

Speakers:

1. Tristan Harley, Act for Peace & Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law
2. Bahati Kanyamanza, International Refugee Assistance Project
3. Baqir Bayani, Act for Peace and Asylum Access
4. Stephanie López Villamil, Carleton University
5. Yusra Herzi, PILnet

Day, Date : Tuesday, 21 January 2025, 15.30–17.00 WIB
Venue : Room 10 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 2, Panel 20

Global Agenda: Education

IASFM20 New Panel 9

Impact of Borderless Higher Education for Refugees' Connected Tertiary Learning Programs for Refugees and Local Kenyans in Dadaab, Kenya

Ochan Leomoi (Dadaab Response Association)

This study confirmed that access to Borderless Higher Education for Refugees (BHER) connected education programs substantially and positively affected the livelihoods and careers, the personal outlook, mental health, as well as the family and community lives of refugee and local students from the Dadaab refugee camps and neighbouring host communities. It reports that the lost hope for further studies in higher education among the forced displaced persons within Dadaab protracted camps and the surrounding marginalized communities was revived by BHER's project as noted by the respondents. However, some participants were doubtful whether the certificate from BHER Program would be recognized by other institutions. Attaining tertiary education became a gateway for refugees to exit protracted displacement camps, whilst for others, the social and political environment remain obstacles to a better life. The report confirms that participation in university education had enduring and constructive impacts on many aspects of the respondents' individual, family, and communal lives because of the transformative functions of higher education for people living in the restrictive and disempowering social, economic, and political circumstances of protracted displacement and local marginalization. These findings gesture to the need for expanding the notion of impact beyond economic measures and towards a comprehensive assessment that examines the manifold ways which higher education can affect the trajectory of a person's life.

Impact of Refugee-led Organizations in Dadaab

Arte Dagane (Dadaab Response Association)

A displaced community living in one place for a long period of time ignites the idea to craft sustainable activities to keep life going. This is not different from the refugees in Dadaab protracted camps. Responding to the demand of education and economic activities the refugee communities established initiatives with the objectives to educate their children spiritually, academically and technically. However, humanitarian agencies eventually took charge of implementing education to a formal level. Realizing that there were gaps to transit refugee children to secondary education, in the year 2007 refugees mobilized themselves and established their first community secondary school but two years later CARE Kenya took over the implementation. Although non-governmental organizations were offering services to refugees at their best efforts, the communities felt that there were still some key elements of traditional practices which the humanitarian regime and the host government were not satisfactorily addressing, thus created the gaps. Those included community court justice commonly known by the Somali refugee community as Masla (the Alternative court justice). This is a community justice and peace approach that focuses on reconciliation, rather than impunity. The offended and the offender are duly heard by the council of elders then decisions and rulings are made according to the Somalis set standards. The urge to advocate for social changes like egalitarianism, minority rights, environmental management, community health, and engaging men through accountable practice was the origin of establishing refugee led initiatives and refugee led organizations in Dadaab encampment. From the assessment done by Dadaab Response Association,

it is discovered that currently 90% of the Refugee-Led Initiatives (RLI) within the camps play a key role in socio-economic activities, a role that has been important since the establishment of these refugee camps in Garissa County. These Refugee Led Initiatives' services range from socio-economic activities to education, especially within the sectors where International Organizations are unable to meet the needs of the communities. The Refugee Led Initiatives' services within the camps were greatly felt during the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak, a time when the traditional international organizations withdrew their staff from the field. It was a time when refugees needed the humanitarian agencies' services seriously, but they were not visible. Dadaab Response Association (DRA) noted unfair financial support practices from the investigation it conducted on Refugee Led Organizations in Dadaab. The report shows that only two out of five selected initiatives for the interview receive financial and in-kind support from external organizations. Dadaab Collective Freelancing Agency (DCFA) is supported by the International Trade Centre (ITC) through funding and capacity building on leadership knowledge. The second one is Help Dadaab which is a diaspora organization initiated by a former Dadaab refugee in United Kingdom. Help Dadaab addresses the challenges faced by refugees in accessing higher education. It provides diploma courses through Cambridge International College. It is therefore, important to recognize the presence of refugee-led initiatives because it promotes sustainable and inclusive refugee responses.

Canadian Teachers' Pedagogical Responses to Newcomer Students with Refugee Backgrounds

Sofia Noori (University of British Columbia)

There is large increase of immigrants to Canada from war zones and inevitably this effects schools, learners, and urban communities in fundamental ways. Major cities like Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary are projected to accept the most newcomers from these war zones. However, there is sparse research on how educators are faring in these places. Therefore, this presentation focuses on describing K-12 public school teachers' needs in these highly populated urban school districts across Canada. Surveys and focus groups responses indicate that teachers feel they are inadequately prepared and have little direction from ministries to help their refugee students succeed. Teachers who participated in the study demanded in person workshops and professional development programs to learn more about trauma-informed pedagogy and culturally sensitive practices. While challenges for teachers and students appear similar in these major urban centres in Canada, the responses are varied and provide potential and beneficial program reforms for other cities across this country and other third state urban resettlements in the Western world. This presentation explains cities' readiness to deal with influx of displaced people: basic educational infrastructure and service provision for displaced populations, accommodation and integration of students in schools and beyond.

Creative (en)counterspaces: Engineering valuable contact for young refugees via solidarity arts workshops in Thessaloniki, Greece

Lucy Hunt (University of Nottingham), Mary Anne Kenny (Murdoch University)

This paper explores the role of non-formal arts education in Thessaloniki, Greece for fostering contact considered valuable by the young refugee community. Drawing on accounts of their daily life, gathered over eight months of ethnographic fieldwork for a project on their post-15 educational participation, the article details how around the city, young refugees (aged 15-25 years) experience conflicted encounters involving both hostility and solidarity. While this hostility impacts their aspirations, self-image, and feelings of inclusion, a large solidarity movement attempts to counteract these challenges by offering educational activities for 'inclusion' such as arts workshops in temporary spaces. These offers were popular among youth in the study, as they constituted a welcoming

opportunity for building social connections, language skills, and self-confidence—outcomes that extended beyond the physical space of the workshops. As such, they functioned as valuable, creative ‘(en)counterspaces’. Based on observations from one case study site, this article unpacks the key processes that promoted these valued outcomes—including collaboration, mediation, and informal contact—as well as the role played by arts materials and arts-making practices in these processes. This paper also offers key considerations for designing similar activities, such as being sensitive to inclusivity and power relations. It aims to build on the literature on both ‘counterspaces’ and ‘encounters’ by documenting the outcomes young refugees value from contact in these sites of solidarity, and how and why they proactively seek them out; as well as analysing the other actors and specific activities involved in them.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 1
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 21

Museum of Shredded Memories – a mixed mediums installation
Mumtaz Chopan (artist)

In the "Museum of Shredded Memories," Mumtaz explores the harrowing and fragmented experiences of forced migration, using the act of shredding as a metaphor for the loss and disintegration of identity, history, and belonging. This installation speaks to the displacement and trauma faced by refugees, whose lives are often reduced to broken pieces, lost documents, and forgotten narratives. Each shredded artifact within the installation represents the memory of a life uprooted—papers, photographs, and possessions once imbued with meaning, now scattered and torn beyond recognition.

The museum format—an institution built to preserve and celebrate history—becomes an ironic space in this work, as it houses memories that are no longer whole or accessible. The shape of the installation is taken from containers that are used by smugglers to transport refugees across borders. It questions the notion of memory and how history is erased when people are forced to leave behind their homes, their culture, and their past. The absence of these once-meaningful objects challenges viewers to consider the deep emotional and psychological toll of migration, while also highlighting the resilience of those who rebuild their lives from the remnants of what was lost.

Through this installation, Mumtaz aims to give voice to those who are too often silenced by borders, politics, and the complexities of migration. The "Museum of Shredded Memories" is a space where fragments are preserved not as a monument to what has been lost, but as a testament to the perseverance of the human spirit in the face of erasure.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 2
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 22

**Sexual and Gender-based Violence from Displacement to Refuge:
 conceptualising violence, harm and recovery**

Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham)

Forced migration has doubled in the past decade and become increasingly feminised with individuals known to be at high risk of being exposed to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), that is any form of violence committed against someone because of their gender or sex. The extent to which forced migrants experience sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is unknown with under-reporting the norm. Estimates vary depending on individuals’ race and ethnicity, age, country of origin and migration route as well as length of journey but can affect up to 70% of women (Pertek and Phillimore et al. 2022). Some men, children and LGBTQIA+ forced migrants are also at risk of SGBV. There is a considerable body of research on SGBV against forced migrants at different points in time and in different places. This includes in conflict, in flight and in camps. Attention has been paid too, to different forms of SGBV, in particular sexual assault and family violence. More recently the feminist notion of a continuum of violence has been applied to help understanding of forced migration and SGBV (Krause 2015). The continuum idea challenges notions that violence happens as separate incidents at different moments, suggesting instead that incidents are connected. Thus SGBV occurs at different times and places across a forced migration continuum of violence. The continuum concept has generally considered conflict as the starting point in the continuum and focused on women refugees. Recent work has demonstrated that SGBV can occur pre-flight and may constitute the reason for flight and may also occur post-flight in imagined refuge (Phillimore et al. 2023). It also evident that SGBV takes different forms and can include structural violence.

Our panel draws on analyses of qualitative research with over 160 forced migrant SGBV survivors arriving in Europe, Asia and Australia. The panel outlines the nature of SGBV experiences accumulating across forced displacement and enhances understanding about the multiple forms of violence faced by survivors over time and place as well as the harms that these experiences generate. We expand upon work that has outlined the nature of violence against women and girls along the continuum to focus on the victimisation of children and individuals identifying as LGBTQIA+. We then explore in detail the gendered nature of structural violence against women in refuge demonstrating how immigration and asylum systems generate conditions that result in SGBV survivors experiencing further interpersonal harms. We show how experiences of SGBV and the structural violences of the immigration and asylum systems undermine survivors’ ability to move on with their lives. Having established that the continuum of violence extends beyond women and into refuge we examine the strategies that organisations use to help women resist the violences imposed by cruel heteropatriarchal and bordering systems, to recover from the harms of SGBV and to move on with their lives.

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Phillimore, J., Block, K., Bradby, H., Ozcurumez, S. and Papoutsis, A., 2023. Forced migration, sexual and gender-based violence and integration: Effects, risks and protective factors. *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, 24(2), pp.715–745.

Violence experienced by child forced migrants: interrogating and extending the concept of a violence continuum

Karen Block (University of Melbourne), Andrea Cuesta Garcia, Jeanine Hourani and Jenny Phillimore (School of Social Policy University of Birmingham)

There is now a considerable body of research that documents the ubiquity of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) experienced by forced migrants, particularly women. Far less research has specifically examined the experiences of forced migrant children. This presentation draws on interviews with 166 forced migrant survivors who participated in the SEREDA project (Sexual and Gender-based Violence against Refugees from Displacement to Arrival). Survivors were from the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region and Sub-Saharan Africa. Although all interviewees were adults, they recounted extensive violence perpetrated against their children, and also recalled their own childhood experiences of SGBV. Experiences included the violence of war, forced conscription, rapes, forced marriage, confinement, trafficking and sexual slavery; as well as abandonment, exclusion from education, destitution, racism and exposure to domestic and family violence throughout. What this data makes clear, is that specific violence against forced migrant children warrants greater attention.

The concept of a continuum of violence has been used within SGBV forced migrant research to describe the persistence of violence across borders, time, and space. Thus, SGBV is experienced in countries of origin and may precipitate flight, but then continues in transit and camps and often also in countries of ‘refuge’. This paper presents a new analysis of qualitative data collected from SGBV survivors resident in the UK, Australia, Sweden and Türkiye which examines the violence they experienced as children and the violence that their own children have been subject to. Our research shows that children too, are subjected to SGBV across a continuum of violence. We argue here however, that the concept of a continuum of violence can be usefully extended to consider other ways in which violence crosses boundaries and accumulates. Within the broader field of research on violence against women, scholars have used the idea of a violence continuum to encompass the different types of gendered interpersonal violence that women experience: sexual, physical, psychological, and economic. Broadening our horizons further again, we can see that at a global level, intersectional, raced and gendered structural and symbolic violence shapes the experiences of whole population groups, enabling and legitimising persecution and oppression. This type of violence continuum also pertains to our specific group of interest in this paper: forced migrant children. Such an expanded conceptualisation of a violence continuum provides a useful framework for understanding and ultimately intervening to prevent the range harms perpetrated against forced migrant children.

‘I will experience this trauma over and over again’: Sexual and gender based violence, forced migration and structural violence

Jenny Phillimore (School of Social Policy University of Birmingham), Karen Block (University of Melbourne), Hannah Bradby, Hoayda Darkal, Lisa Goodson, Anna Papoutsis, Cathy Vaughan

Amidst unprecedented global forced migration, millions flee their homes, seeking refuge from conflict, persecution, and violence. This exodus includes women who not only endure traumas of displacement but also confront sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) along their refugee

journey. However, upon reaching supposed places of refuge, they encounter yet another form of violence, structural violence embedded within immigration and asylum regimes. Against this backdrop, the intersectionality of SGBV, forced migration, and structural violence emerges as an urgent area of study. Drawing from extensive empirical research in Australia, Sweden, and the UK, in the form of interviews with SGBV survivors who have experienced the immigration and/or asylum systems in those countries we examine the multi-dimensional impact of structural violence and highlight how a 'continuum of violence' spanning pre-conflict, displacement, and asylum-seeking phases is navigated.

The paper introduces a novel analytical framework, synthesising the i) intimate violence of ' ; the insidious ii) slow violence of everyday life, and the ii) gender blindness endemic in determination regimes. We further see how survivors endure a catalogue of injustices: such as how the intimate violence of dependency traps women in controlling relationships, while slow violence leaves them in substandard and undignified conditions, and gender-blindness renders SGBV experiences invisible, subjecting survivors to re-traumatisation. Within this framework we show how these intersecting forms of structural violence, which underpin the realities of hostile immigration systems, systematically fail those at risk of SGBV, leaving them vulnerable to further harm.

This paper calls for urgent systemic change within immigration and asylum systems to prioritise the protection and well-being of forced migrant SGBV survivors. As countries increase hostilities towards forced migrants, it is imperative to recognise and address the structural violence that perpetuates harm and denies individuals the safety they seek. Failure to act risks further perpetuating the cycle of trauma and injustice, undermining the fundamental principles of safety and refuge for those in dire need.

Between a rock and a hard place: expectations of performance and participation in Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) asylum claims in the UK

Pip McKnight and Dawn River (University of Birmingham)

In June 2023, the Belfast Pride parade was led for the first time by a group of LGBTQIA+ asylum seekers and refugees. Although finally safe to do so according to the letter of UK law, many participants felt compelled to cover their faces as the public celebration of their sexual or gender identity was complex and not without risk. Participation in UK LGBTQIA+ culture is almost a requirement in Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) asylum claims. In a system which assumes heterosexuality as default, the burden of proof falls to claimants to provide evidence of sexual or gender orientation based on Western conceptions of relationships and stereotypes of how queerness is performed. In this paper we use data from the SEREDA research programme into forced migration and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to explore how survivors traverse in/visibility, past and present trauma, and hetero/homonormativity to make their case for sanctuary. Drawing on interviews with 13 specialist service providers and 15 SOGI claimants from across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, this paper argues that the UK asylum system's stereotyped expectations of performance and participation in queer life form part of a continuum of violence experienced by SOGI claimants which can compound trauma and create vulnerability to further SGBV, for example, through exposure to hostile co-ethnic communities or violent dependency in relationships. We argue for a system of protection for SOGI claimants which is more responsive to the ways in which LGBTQIA+ communities face unique forms of vulnerability to violence and hardship compared with heterosexual and cis-gendered asylum seekers. Such a system would need to prioritise safety through appropriate housing, invest in specialist, trauma-informed support services and be centring of intersectional queer experiences.

Breaking the silence around sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of refugee women

Halah Ahmed and Bibi Rahima Farhangdost (Sisterhood)

The Sisterhood is the only safe space in Jakarta run by and for refugee women. It's a place where women do not feel alone and can instead feel at home. Since 2018 over 1200 refugees have attended Sisterhood's activities online and at their community centre. Socially isolated women have made friends, gained confidence from developing new skills and been encourage to become active in their communities as volunteers, advocates and representatives. Sisterhood's mission is to strengthen the bonds between women from all faiths and backgrounds and to promote the rights and well-being of refugee women. Members come from many countries including Afghanistan, Cameroon, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen.

In this panel discussion, Sisterhood will share their knowledge of working within refugee communities to enhance knowledge and productivity in national and regional conversations about sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), women's rights, and refugee rights. They explain how, by uniting women's voices and gaining a deeper understanding of women's role in bringing about change, they can share their work and the important role of movements led by survivors for refugee women. Their focus in this presentation is to share their journey of fighting against SGBV as part of Sisterhood. In so doing they illustrate how women can come together resist the violences imposed by cruel systems, to recover from the harms of SGBV and to move on with their lives.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB

Venue : Room 3

Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 23

Access to social protection for displaced people in urban areas (Part 1)

Michael Collyer (University of Sussex)

These panels fit within the '(Re)conception of urban displacement' theme of the call with a focus on collaboration between 'hosts' and displaced people through the medium of social protection. Social protection covers a range of long-term, sustainable forms of support directly to individuals and households. These forms of support are often associated with state provision and in many cases exclude non-citizens, including refugees. Over the past decade, this has begun to shift and social protection has provided a focus of analysis for transforming provision to displaced people and a number of mostly small-scale policy initiatives. Given that IDPs often suffer similar exclusion from existing state provision to refugees, it is useful to extend this analysis to displacement in general, rather than refugees in particular. These recent efforts to at least partially include displaced people highlight the potential of social protection to provide a tool in the shift from emergency, humanitarian aid to longer term development assistance. The papers on this panel arise from the Better Assistance in Crises (BASIC) research project. They share a similar analysis of social protection involving a spectrum of support from unconditional transfers (also called social assistance), conditional transfers and other forms of social provisioning such as health and education. Research was also attentive to 'informal' forms of social protection, through community and religious organisations, intermediaries and neighbourhood mutual solidarity. The displacement strand of BASIC research involved research in DRC, Lebanon and Pakistan. In each of these three countries, research took place in one camp (or camp-like) setting and one urban neighbourhood with a significant population of displaced people. There is therefore a central urban focus to the analysis. Social protection is particularly significant in urban areas, since people lack rural forms of subsistence. Direct support in urban areas also provides particular challenges of universality, targeting and selection that are well established in UNHCR's urban programming. Collectively, these papers make a contribution to ongoing efforts to identify how and when social protection can be used to further equality of treatment and enhance life chances of displaced people living in urban areas.

Understanding the pervasiveness of informality in the lives of displacement affected communities

Dr Tahir Zaman (University of Sussex, UK), Dr Rouba Mhaissen (SAWA for Development & Aid, Lebanon)

Despite informality being widely acknowledged as a structural characteristic of low-income economies, policymakers at national and supra-national levels seldom consider how their interventions can provide enabling environments for its development. This paper seeks to extend this discussion around informality in relation to displacement affected communities understood herein as those who remain in a displacement affected locality long enough to sustain meaningful relationships between themselves to better negotiate difference and engage in understandings and practices of co-existence. Clearly, informality can be descriptively applied to both those already resident and to new arrivals. It is often argued that the germane distinction between the two groups is that the latter may not possess the requisite legal relation to the state thereby exacerbating their exposure to precarity and informality.

This paper seeks to question whether this claim has been given a disproportionate emphasis in the analysis of displacement affected communities. It does not necessarily hold that displaced people occupying informal spaces are failing to integrate with the so-called host community. Displacement affected communities sit across a broad continuum of statuses, practices and rights informed by their relation to (in)formality. Here, we take informality as encompassing the range of activities that, while being outside the controlling or coercive presence of nation-states and their allied institutions, also serve to remedy the unequal access to opportunities and capital for those deemed to have transgressed the boundaries set by nation-states and their allied institutions. The paper we are presenting today builds on existing literature demonstrating that for displacement affected communities, the informal is part and parcel of their everyday normal and is structured as such by the constrained institutional arrangements set in place to govern relations between the newly arrived and those already resident. Much of the literature at the intersection of forced migration and informal practices, however, retains a stubborn focus on income generation and housing in urban locations. This article addresses two fundamental blind spots in the treatment of informality in the lives of displacement affected communities. First, we broaden the spatial consideration to move beyond the urban and investigate the production of informality in rural settlements for displaced people. Second, we extend the treatment of informality beyond housing and income generation.

Our findings draw attention to how informality structures and is structured by five additional domains germane to displacement affected communities – care, debt, mobility, food security and humanitarian aid. This paper draws on in-depth interviews with displacement affected people and survey data from 15 research sites, encompassing both urban and rural contexts, across five different countries in the global South – DRC, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Pakistan, and Myanmar. In so doing, we seek to consider the (de)generative ways in which informality shapes the understandings and experiences of displacement affected communities. The paper concludes with some reflections on whether the geographical imaginations of nation-states and their allied institutions can be expanded to make space for informal practices found in displacement affected communities and what the implications of such acknowledgment could direct us towards.

Intermediaries and Displacement-Affected Communities in Pakistan

Shahida Aman and Muhammad Ayub Jan (University of Peshawar)

This paper explores the role and transforming nature of intermediaries in displacement-affected communities. These intermediaries are situated between the authorities and the displaced masses and channel resources, provide community services, mobilise the community, and provide leadership. These entities are institutionalised historically through cultural norms and social practices. Some prominent intermediaries that can be identified in the displacement affected communities include Maliks or mesharan in Pakistan, Shaveesh in Lebanon, and clan leaders in Ethiopia. This paper argues that the literature on displacement or migration often ignores the multifaceted role played by such institutionalised intermediaries in displacement affected communities. The literature on displacement has focused primarily on intermediaries as organizations that channel aid to the displaced people. However, we deviate from this approach with an understanding that most of the intermediaries in displaced situations are actors that are historically embedded in cultural and social norms and play a role in organizing life in displacement situations by mobilizing masses, channelling resources, and providing community service and leadership.

Based on qualitative data gathered under a research project, Protracted Displacement Economies, we position this paper around the premise that despite the multifaceted role played by these intermediaries, their authority is contested due to controversies related to their effectiveness in displacement settings. This paper argues that such intermediaries serve as channels through which

authorities such as government institutions, INGOs, NGOs, etc negotiate and maneuver their way to reach out to the displaced people for the provision of aid, and other services. Provide social and political leadership that is activated to settle disputes among the refugees, mobilize people for social support in times of crisis and provide the much-needed sense of belonging to the clan or tribe in situations of uprootedness during their displacement. Some evidence also suggests that they act as intermediaries to connect the refugees and their goods and services to the informal and formal markets.

The role(s) and importance of informal social protection for urban protracted displacement survival: the case of displaced Syrians in Tripoli, Lebanon

Charley Howman (Institute of Development Studies)

The scale and duration of displacement has grown rapidly in the 21st century. Becoming the norm rather than the exception, the magnitude and severity of urban protracted displacement underscores the urgency of understanding how displaced populations navigate urban space over time to survive. While Lebanon hosts the world’s largest per capita ‘refugee’ population, it is not party to the 1951 UN Convention relating to the status of refugees. Displaced Syrians in Tripoli, Lebanon’s most impoverished and second largest city, face a myriad of challenges in leading meaningful lives, in many cases without legal protections, difficulties attaining sustainable livelihoods and facing discrimination and poverty. The dwindling political and aid responses over time in displacement provide only short-term ‘care and maintenance’ relief of limited quantities, or economic ‘livelihoods’, ‘resilience’ and ‘self-reliance’ opportunities, despite Lebanon affording very limited opportunities for those without residency to seek or maintain livelihoods, rights or protection provisions. Urban settings can provide opportunities to access economic and social services and engage in diverse and multiple social interactions. Yet, with fragmentated rights and legal positions, displaced Syrians face differential access to formal labour markets, state social protection and international aid. In the absence of appropriate large scale ‘durable solutions’, or long-term sustainable forms of support provided by state systems or external actors, displaced Syrians in urban Tripoli are found through my research to be de facto ‘self-reliant’ in navigating displacement survival. Alongside common self-led coping strategies of seeking informal labour and reducing consumption and expenditure, displaced Syrians are only able to rely on themselves and their own informal networks to help meet needs. In many cases, struggling to meet basic needs as displacement continues, assets and resources dwindle, connections are stretched across geographies, and complex crises and their impacts overlap, with severe consequences for personal safety and security.

Through the case of displaced Syrians in Lebanon, the paper thus explores the role(s) and importance of informal social protection in aiding the survival of those living in urban protracted displacement. Drawing on qualitative methods of semi-structured interviews and participant observation with displaced Syrians and community groups over 2023–2024 in Tripoli as part of my doctoral research, the paper shares emerging findings and analyses drawing on everyday lived experiences and activities of urban displaced communities. Results highlight the role of informal ‘social protection’ in supporting provide physical, material and emotional protection, shaped by social dynamics including kinship and non-kinship, age, gender, class and faith, alongside spatial and temporal, public and private dimensions, with underlying power relations affecting access to resources and the types of support and experiences that unfold. The presentation will thus centre on the navigation of situations of urban protracted displacement, utilisation of information social protection to meet needs, as well as dynamics of exclusion and inclusion, to share emerging theorisations of the social conditions aiding urban protracted displacement survival and who may be being left behind.

Patchworks of provisioning: social assistance and the urbanization of refuge in Lebanon

Dolf te Lintelo (Institute of Development Studies, UK), Nadine Alkhayat (Beirut Urban Lab, American University of Beirut)

Since 2019, Lebanon has been overwhelmed by one of the sharpest economic downturns in recent history (World Bank, 2022) and deep political crisis. Hyper-inflation and a dollarization of the economy have had distinct effects on various population groups residing in the country. Not long ago deemed a middle-income country, nowadays 80% of the Lebanese live in poverty and 36% below the extreme poverty line, while 90% of an estimated million plus Syrian refugees cannot cover their basic needs (European Union, 2023). A further 470,000 Palestinians, many of them inter-generationally stateless and an additional 18,500 refugees from Ethiopia, Iraq and other countries reside in the country, do not fare better.

While there has never been a greater need for social safety nets, assistance and protection, provisioning is threadbare and fragmented. Humanitarian assistance from the international community is operating side by side and overlapping from time to time with other forms of more or less predictable state based, civil society based, party political, sectarian and informal local assistance.

Part of the Better Assistance in Crises (BASIC) research programme, this paper explores and maps the scattered provisioning of social assistance across populations living in three mixed urban informal neighbourhoods in Beirut. It attempts to make sense of (in)visibilities in eroded patchworks of provisioning, and their frequent alterations, to identify social, material and spatial logics of assistance selection and rationing. These condition the terms of inscription of vulnerable populations into the city, yet are often poorly understood, not least by recipients and those who fail to benefit, to fuel resentment and distrust about (re)distribution in conditions of generalising scarcity.

The paper draws on ongoing field enquiries adopting transect walks, image capture, key informant interviews and rapid survey instruments in three neighborhoods of Beirut. It seeks to contribute to enhanced understandings of the urbanization of refuge, and the localized dynamics of assistance across displaced and displacement affected populations in urban survival and city-making during a time of general crisis.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 4
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 24

**Conceptualizing Success and Integration Among Refugees:
Perspectives from Research and Practice**

Mitra Naseh (Washington University in St. Louis)

This panel brings together diverse insights into the multifaceted journey of refugee integration after resettlement. Through the lens of research and practice, three distinct papers shed light on the complexities, challenges, and enabling factors that shape economic integration and success among refugee populations. The first paper is a scoping review aimed at documenting the conceptualization and assessment of economic integration among immigrants and forcibly displaced individuals, particularly refugees, within the United States. Drawing from a comprehensive and systematic search and review of over 12,000 peer-reviewed papers, the study identified seven key domains for economic integration, including income and economic security, employment and occupational categories, assets and use of financial services, neighborhood and housing, health, education, and use of public assistance. This scoping review highlights the need for multidimensional tools to evaluate and support the economic integration experiences of refugees. The second paper is based on quantitative data collected from 191 Afghan households (n= 930 individuals) using the Refugee Multidimensional Economic Integration (RMEI) and Perceived Discrimination surveys. RMEI measures integration in seven domains: income and economic security; employment and occupational categories; asset and use of financial services; neighborhood and housing; health; education and English language proficiency; and use of public assistance. Data was collected using convenience sampling and structured interviews in English, Dari, and Pashto between February and April 2024.

Findings indicated limited multidimensional economic integration among the Afghan households, nearly all participants (98.34%) experienced limited economic integration in at least two domains. Income and economic security as well as education and English language proficiency were the two domains in which more than half of the participants were experiencing limited integration. The third paper introduces the Self-Reliance Index, a multidimensional global tool for measuring the progress of refugee households toward self-reliance. The SRI contains twelve domains focused on a household's basic needs, the resources available to meet those needs, and the sustainability of those resources. Through data sharing agreements with a number of organizational users in urban and non-camp-based settings, a global dataset was created comprising more than 10,000 observations, including households with SRI measurements at multiple points in time. Preliminary findings highlight generally low levels of self-reliance across contexts, the inverse relationship between a household's dependency ratio and its self-reliance, and associations between having an adult male household member and greater self-reliance. Preliminary analyses also point to lower levels of self-reliance in camp versus urban settings, reflecting the need for wider discussions around what it means to be self-reliant in a camp setting. Together, these papers provide an insight into the complex journey of refugee integration and success, offering valuable information to policymakers, practitioners, and researchers working with refugees.

Understanding Economic Integration Refugee Populations: A Scoping Review of Concepts and Metrics

Mitra Naseh, Jihye Lee, Yingying Zeng, Proscovia Nabunya, Valencia Alvarez (Washington University in St. Louis)

In an increasingly mobile world, the integration of immigrants and displaced individuals is pivotal for fostering cohesive and inclusive societies. Economic integration stands out as a critical dimension in this process. This study is a scoping review conducted with the aim of documenting the conceptualization and assessment of economic integration among immigrants and forcibly displaced individuals, particularly refugees, in the United States.

The search strategy for this scoping review included an online systematic search of peer-reviewed papers published in English in Web of Science Core Collection, PsycINFO, Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts, and EconLit using keywords related to '(forced) migration,' 'integration,' 'success,' and the 'United States.' The search was conducted on December 10, 2022, and retrieved studies through the search were exported into Covidence software for the review process. Additional search strategies included scanning the reference lists of studies identified as relevant in the initial database search. Abstracts of the imported studies into Covidence ($n = 12,255$) were reviewed by two independent researchers and in case of a conflict in voting to exclude or include, a third reviewer made the final decision. Peer-reviewed journal papers on integration and success among first-generation adult immigrants or refugees in the United States were included in the screening. We excluded qualitative studies and studies on under-documented immigrants, mixed-status families, and asylum seekers as we were interested in the foreign-born population with full access to available resources for economic integration. For the full-text review ($n = 840$), studies were labeled as papers focused on economic, social, cultural, or spatial integration; integration in general; and success. A team of three researchers reviewed the full text of the studies relevant to integration, with a specific focus on economic integration. This process resulted in the inclusion of 72 studies in this scoping review with data or conceptual frameworks defining economic integration among first-generation immigrants or refugees in the United States. The screening stage had a 98.2% agreement rate among reviewers, with a Cohen's Kappa value of 0.90, indicating strong agreement. At the full-text review stage, the agreement rate dropped slightly to 91.1%, with a Cohen's Kappa value of 0.76, reflecting moderate agreement.

Analysis of the included studies in this scoping review reveals seven key domains of economic integration for immigrants and refugees in the literature: 1) income and economic security, 2) employment and occupational categories, 3) assets and use of financial services, 4) neighborhood and housing, 5) health, 6) education, and 7) use of public assistance. Income and economic security emerged as the most common indicators of integration in the reviewed studies. Notably, less than half of the reviewed publications had a multidimensional approach to defining or measuring economic integration, and the majority of studies were focused on immigrants, with a smaller proportion dedicated to refugees. This review emphasizes the need for comprehensive frameworks in assessing economic integration among immigrants and refugees, reflecting the multifaceted nature of their economic integration experiences.

Multidimensional Economic Integration of Refugees in the U.S.

Jihye Lee, Mitra Naseh (Washington University in St. Louis)

Refugees are highly vulnerable to economic marginalization and poverty, often exacerbated by their sudden displacement and the structural barriers they face upon resettlement. Economic integration of refugees is complex, hindered by limited social support, scarce financial resources, restricted

employment opportunities, and under-valued or not recognized skills and educational credentials. Traditional measures of self-sufficiency, which focus mainly on income, fail to capture the broader scope of deprivation, including factors such as standards of living. This study examines the multidimensional economic integration of newly resettled Afghans in St. Louis, MO, aiming to provide a more comprehensive perspective on the integration of a record-high number of Afghans resettling in the U.S.

The study is based on quantitative data collected from 191 Afghan households (n= 930 individuals) using the Refugee Multidimensional Economic Integration (RMEI) and Perceived Discrimination surveys. RMEI measures integration in seven domains: income and economic security; employment and occupational categories; asset and use of financial services; neighborhood and housing; health; education and English language proficiency; and use of public assistance. Data was collected using convenience sampling and structured interviews in English, Dari, and Pashto between February and April 2024. Logistic regression analyzed how factors such as duration of U.S. residency, English proficiency, and perceived discrimination influenced integration. Additionally, the study examined the relationship between welfare benefits, economic hardship, financial health, and perceptions of discrimination.

Findings indicated limited multidimensional economic integration among the Afghan households, nearly all participants (98.34%) experienced limited economic integration in at least two domains. Income and economic security as well as education and English language proficiency were the two domains in which more than half of the participants were experiencing limited integration. Data also shows significant underemployment (51.85%) and concerning numbers living below the minimum standard of living (63.49%), while 54.50% faced overcrowded living conditions. Notably, higher levels of perceived discrimination were associated with better economic conditions ($p < .001$), possibly reflecting greater social integration or increased interactions within the host community. Government benefit programs markedly reduced perceived discrimination ($p < .001$), highlighting the importance of social support systems. Additionally, financial health was positively correlated with reduced discrimination ($p = .013$), suggesting that financial stability contributes to social acceptance.

The study underscores the complexity of economic integration, beyond self-sufficiency. Our findings show that unidimensional monetary indices including income poverty may not accurately capture the full extent of economic integration among refugees. Policy measures should consider multidimensional indices to better measure standards of living and integration among refugees. For the majority of refugees, securing employment is essential for economic integration. However, the current emphasis of the resettlement programs on immediate job acquisition can confine refugees to minimum-wage jobs, requiring long hours of work with limited opportunities for upward mobility and no time to invest in their human capital.

The Self-Reliance Index: Learning around enabling factors and barriers to refugee self-reliance

Kari Diener, Lindsay Stark, Ilana Seff, Ned Meerdink, Dale Buscher (Hosted at the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative is supported through ongoing collaboration with RefugePoint, the Women's Refugee Commission, and Washington University in St. Louis)

Launched in 2020 by the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative, the Self-Reliance Index (SRI) is the first global tool for measuring the progress of refugee households toward self-reliance. Developed through a three-year multi-stakeholder process led by RefugePoint and the Women's Refugee Commission with 25 partners, including NGOs, UNHCR, researchers, funders, and government agencies, the SRI is used to: support the design and provision of effective services; target populations for assistance; highlight service gaps; and inform funding priorities. The SRI contains twelve domains focused on a household's

basic needs, the resources available to meet those needs, and the sustainability of those resources. Domains also measure conditions and assets that increase the likelihood that refugees will be able to continue meeting their needs in the future. Designed primarily for urban and non-camp-based populations, the SRI is also currently being used with internally displaced individuals, camp, and rural-based refugees. The SRI has been used by over 60 partners in more than 30 countries, with a number of ongoing research initiatives underway utilizing the tool. Through data sharing agreements with a number of SRI users, the RSRI has created a global dataset comprising more than 10,000 observations, including households with SRI measurements at multiple points in time. While analysis is still underway, preliminary findings highlight generally low levels of self-reliance across contexts, the inverse relationship between a household's dependency ratio and its self-reliance, and associations between having an adult male household member and greater self-reliance. Preliminary analyses also point to lower levels of self-reliance in camp versus urban settings, reflecting the need for wider discussions around what it means to be self-reliant in a camp setting. This presentation presents key findings and discusses implications for advocacy, policy and programming.

Economic Self-Reliance & Mental Health: Testing A Hybrid Entrepreneurship & SEL Intervention for Venezuelan Crisis Migrant Youth in Bogotá, Colombia

Megan Taylor (Boston College), María Piñeros-Leaño, Natalia Piñeros-Leaño, Gabi Ortiz, Eduardo Dager, Alethea Desrosiers

Over 7.7 million people have fled Venezuela since 2014 due to ongoing political, economic, and humanitarian crises, becoming one of the largest modern displacement crises in the world. Colombia, a neighboring Global South nation, hosts more Venezuelan migrants than any other country, with the urban capital of Bogotá receiving the largest portion. Colombian reception of these migrants has been mixed, with some receptive national policies juxtaposed with widespread xenophobia and discrimination at the individual and community levels. The acute economic and mental health needs stemming from the displacement experiences of Venezuelan migrants have strained Colombia's economy and public service systems. There is a critical need for innovative, multisectoral solutions that address Venezuelan migrants' mental health needs and help them prepare for the future. This study tests the acceptability of one such solution, a hybrid intervention that simultaneously addresses the pressing economic and mental health needs of Venezuelan youth living in Bogotá.

The 10-day intervention took place from November 28 to December 9, 2022. Each day included bootcamp-style entrepreneurship training and mental health-focused social-emotional learning. The entrepreneurship training emphasized skills like developing a business plan, networking, and marketing. The mental health intervention taught skills like emotional regulation, assertive communication, problem-solving, and coping with trauma. Participants received daily transportation support (\$5 USD), and parents either received a daily childcare support stipend (\$5 USD) or free on-site childcare. 33 Venezuelan migrant youth ages 18-30 participated in the intervention. Participants lived in Bogotá and arrived in Colombia after 2016. Recruitment occurred on social media platforms using targeted posts aimed at Venezuelan migrants residing in Bogotá. Rebel Business School, the community partner leading the entrepreneurship component, then contacted participants to confirm participation. Half of the participants (n = 16) were randomly selected to participate in semi-structured interviews about their experiences after completing the intervention. Data were collected and analyzed in Spanish using thematic analysis.

The mean participant age was 26.89 (SD=3.5) and the majority of participants were female (81.25%). Five themes emerged from the qualitative interview data: (1) the hybrid design provided an effective balance that supported growth in both entrepreneurship and mental health, and social-emotional learning enhanced entrepreneurship learning; (2) entrepreneurship training helped participants

expand marketing knowledge, grow their social network, and learn what effective entrepreneurship requires; (3) social-emotional learning enhanced participant motivation, increased emotional stability, improved interpersonal relationships, and helped develop a strong sense of individual purpose; (4) participants shared program learning with others; and (5) the program fostered a strong sense of community belonging.

Results suggest that this hybrid intervention is acceptable and feasible for Venezuelan youth in Bogotá, Colombia. Psychosocial programs for Venezuelan youth can be enhanced when integrated with self-reliance initiatives that prepare them for the future of work through entrepreneurship training. Approaches that both address existing mental health barriers and open future economic opportunities for migrant youth hold great potential, and future research should examine how hybrid approaches address the multifaceted needs of other migrant populations.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 5
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 25

**Co-production of Knowledge and Building Positive Outcomes
with Children and Young People Affected by Human Trafficking**

Patricia Hynes (Sheffield Hallam University)

Anna Skeels (Cardiff University)

Human trafficking has emerged as an increasingly important concern of governments around the world. Numerous empirical studies explore why and how people who move across international borders sometimes enter, remain or face barriers to leaving forms of extreme exploitation due to lack of access to safe migration, restrictions on asylum, heightened securitisation, externalising border controls and forms of social exclusion that contribute to exploitative practices. Responses to human trafficking are often phrased as being around prevention, protection of ‘victims’, prosecution of ‘traffickers’ and partnership with other agencies. The co-creation of knowledge in this space increasingly involves working with ‘survivors’ of human trafficking through the creation of separate advisory boards, with some exceptions of survivor-led knowledge production. Additionally, work is ongoing relating to the co-production of knowledge to build frameworks around ensuring positive outcomes with adults, children and young people so that experiences of trafficking do not impede people’s rights or entitlements and allow for personal growth and space for personal aspiration.

This panel seeks to explore these topics by looking at three key sets of questions:

- (1) questions about the nature of understanding human trafficking
- (2) questions about the co-creation of knowledge around human trafficking; and
- (3) questions around ensuring positive outcomes and how stable futures can be built.

The following questions are not exhaustive.

Questions about the nature of understanding human trafficking can include:

- How is ‘human trafficking’ understood within a forced migration framework?
- Do terms such as ‘trafficking’, ‘smuggling’, ‘refugee’ and ‘migrant’ provide adequate understandings of lived experiences?
- How do the binary positions of ‘forced’ and ‘voluntary’ migration relate to ‘human trafficking’?
- Do ‘survivor’ advisory panels adequately engage and empower ‘victims’/‘survivors’ of trafficking?

Questions about the co-creation of knowledge around human trafficking can include:

- Who is best placed to explore questions about the nature of understanding human trafficking?
- What key methods should be used in the co-production and co-creation of knowledge in this domain?
- How should human trafficking be framed in terms of its interface with migration, forced migration and/or other processes of exploitation?
- Can we conceptualise exploitation at different stages of migration and what value would this bring to the topic?
- Can ‘thicker’, richer and more nuanced accounts help the study of human trafficking move beyond stereotypical representations and dominant narratives to assist problematizing current concepts and frameworks?
- How might ‘extractive’ research methods be creatively replaced with more democratic knowledge production and use in this field?

- Should we move beyond a 'victim/survivor' binary to help us better understand the complex subjectivities and lived experiences of exploitation? How?
- How do gendered understandings inform these debates?

Questions around building stable and positive futures and the role of outcomes frameworks can include:

- What value is there in the terminology of 'modern slavery' in broader forced migration terms?
- For refugees 'durable solutions' have and continue to be key responses to forced displacement – could and/or should 'durable solutions' also include people who have experienced human trafficking?
- What frameworks are needed to respond to human trafficking?
- Could the development of outcomes frameworks addressing outcomes for 'victims'/'survivors' of human trafficking be beneficial?
- Could outcome frameworks enhance focus on the capabilities and rights of those affected by human trafficking? If so, what room might exist for a focus on post-trafficking growth rather than any focus on criminal justice or immigration?
- For children and young people how can it be ensured that responses are framed within child protection and right-based protections rather than viewed through a criminal justice or immigration lens?

Creating Stable Futures: Human Trafficking, Participation and Outcomes for Young People

Patricia Hynes (Sheffield Hallam University)

In the UK, the topic of human trafficking and, more latterly, 'modern slavery', has risen up the policy agenda in tandem with a shrinkage of space for refuge and asylum from persecution. In 2023, more than 17,000 adults and children from around the world were identified as potentially having been exploited either before or after reaching the UK and were referred into the UK's National Referral Mechanism which aims to proactively identify 'victims' of 'modern slavery'. The co-creation of knowledge has very recently been part of the response to human trafficking, with participatory forms of research ongoing, including through the use of arts-based methods. This co-creation of knowledge requires further development but there has been a turn towards knowledge held by 'victims' or 'survivors' of human trafficking with participatory research projects and partnerships across universities and civil society. This paper explores one such research study – Creating Stable Futures for Children and Young People Affected by Human Trafficking in the UK. Drawing on participatory research into the potential for positive outcomes for these children and young people, this paper will discuss the development of a Positive Outcomes Framework devised with young people, a subsequent Practice Tool for practitioners to hold conversations with young people and its use in the UK child protection space.

Support Service Outcomes for Young Survivors of Human Trafficking: A Participatory Approach

Anna Skeels (Cardiff University)

Young refugees and asylum seekers in the UK, including those with lived experience of human trafficking, are required to navigate increasingly restrictive and extractive procedures within a hostile political environment, contributing to a form of 'system trauma'. The creation of knowledge on human trafficking, through using more traditional research methods like interviews, can also be experienced as extractive by these young people, detracting from a trauma-informed approach. This paper sets

out the use of a more participatory approach using ‘Q-methodology’ (or ‘Q’) with young people affected by human trafficking who had migrated to the UK. It explores how Q was used to enable these young people to rank and evaluate the outcomes for them from being supported by the Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship (ICTG) Service in England and Wales. The paper also shares how young survivors from the ICTG service were also engaged as part of a Young People’s Advisory Group to help steer the relevance, appropriateness and accessibility of the research. Overall, it explores how young survivors, and their views, can be alternatively enabled and positioned and how their experience of the knowledge creation process can be different as a result.

Advocating for an Applied Theatre as Research (ATAR) Approach

Lerato Islam (University of Auckland)

Creative and artistic approaches are an invaluable tool to help researchers understand human experience, since they offer insight into different perspectives and experiences due to their ability to transcend cultural, linguistic, and economic barriers (Goessling, 2020). Theatre especially can help researchers gain a deeper understanding of issues pertaining to people’s lives and generate much richer data than traditional methods (Cahill, 2006). Based on Participatory Action Research’ principles, Applied Theatre as Research (ATAR) is a tool for generating data through dramatic expression, in a holistic and explicitly participatory way (Gregorzewski, 2021). Because theatre implicitly includes personal and social realities, ATAR provides an accessible way to explore and consider multiple perspectives (O’Connor and Anderson, 2015). ATAR processes also dismantle the roles of researcher/ researched (O’Connor and Anderson, 2015), by empowering participants to generate their own meanings, perspectives and insights, and transforming them into co-researchers (Gregorzewski, 2021) The approach’s collaborative and participatory nature thus also combats paternalistic, top-down and colonialist approaches to research (Doucet et al., 2022). Through ATAR, co-researchers can explore themes of social justice, build self-confidence and self-worth and work in an atmosphere of trust, respect, appreciation and cooperation (Wrentschur, 2021) in a manner which is inclusive, accessible and most importantly...fun. In this Panel, Applied Theatre Practitioner and Doctoral Candidate Lerato Islam will discuss her use of ATAR as a tool for co-production and co-analysis of knowledge with teenaged refugees and asylum-seekers in the UK, explore its strengths and limitations, and advocate for further use of the practice in research contexts.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 6
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 26

(Re)conception/Knowledge: Urban Displacement I

IASFM20 New Panel 9

Whose City? the Refugees, the Locals and the Changing Dynamics of the Urban Landscape of Post-Partition Calcutta

Subhasree Ghosh (Asutosh College, University of Calcutta)

Taking the city of Calcutta as the site of study against the backdrop of the 1947 Partition that created the two new nation-states of India and Pakistan and triggered one of the largest mass migrations in human history, this paper would attempt to explore the changing contours of socio cultural topography of the metropolis, against the backdrop of the sub-theme Rights to the city for forced migrants and refugees in competition with existing Urban Dwellers. Culling information from a wide array of sources, namely, oral narratives, memoirs, government documents like census and departmental reports, the paper would try to identify the fissures and fractures amongst the residents of the city—the refugee population and the locals—which eventually was reflected in the re-configuring of the living pattern, that translated into fractured social space, leading to pockets/enclaves/ghettos. Partition saddled the city with a huge population with the average density of Calcutta (area 32.33 square miles) being around 88,953 persons per square mile or 139 persons per acre in 1951 – a mammoth increase from 751.2 persons per square mile from the pre-Partition days of 1941. With acute food deficit besetting the province, the fight for resources necessary for subsistence and survival, exacerbated the crisis leading to conflicts, clashes, distrust amongst the local residents and the refugee residents. Thus while the refugee residents were pushed to the southern and the northern fringes of the city where they were treated as ‘outsiders per excellence’ by the local Hindu population, the former often vented their ire on the local Muslim population, evicting them from their homes, occupying the ‘vacant’ places to set up ramshackle tenements. While the local population labelled the migrants as encroachers, the latter were determined to carve out a new life among this hostile set-up. The main bone of contention was the priceless resource—land. The refugees emphasised human rights not only to reside on land but also to human and familial security by human ownership of land, which was heavily contested by the host population. Perhaps this is where the tension lies when we speak of human and refugee rights to use and live on land versus the right to *own land*. The paper would try to bring forth the layered, nuanced structure of isolation/separation, seen through the prism of the self and the other—the locals and the refugees—against the canvas of post-Partition Calcutta and analyse how ethnic, religious, material and class borders interacted with each other in complex ways.

Dynamic Social and Economic Changes in Case of Corporate Development in Maridan: Exploring the Phenomena of Displacement and Place Attachment

Maulidia Savira Chairani, Moh. Syahrul Irfan Fahmi, and Nadia Anindya Dhafita (University of Gadjah Mada), Zumrotul Islamiah (Institut Teknologi Kalimantan)

The Maridan Village is a unique city located within the forest, formed through a close relationship between abundant natural resources and the local community. The presence of corporate companies and infrastructure development significantly alters the local social and economic landscape, creating complex social dynamics. The rapid economic growth in Maridan, referred to as

the "Second Balikpapan," illustrates the benefits of corporate development. The exploitation of forests by logging companies becomes a primary driver in the formation of a city centered around corporate operations. These natural resources form the foundation of the community's attachment to the place. This research explores the phenomena of displacement and place attachment occurring in Maridan. Excessive exploitation and poor company management lead to declining natural resources and environmental services. This impact is aggravated by mass layoffs, prompting some of the population to relocate while others choose to stay. Qualitative methods are used in this research, including field observations and interviews with various parties, including local government officials, village organizations, non-governmental organizations, current and former company employees, as well as the local community.

The research findings indicate that industrialization and early infrastructure development initially attract migrants and create unique social diversity. However, the decline of large corporations in Maridan forces the community to choose whether to relocate or stay. Migrants who lose their livelihoods tend to return to their places of origin, while those who choose to stay exhibit a strong emotional attachment to the area, such as having formed familial bonds with residents or owning valuable assets. The phenomenon of place attachment in Maridan is characterized by the presence of a community that chooses to remain despite facing economic and environmental challenges. By focusing on the unique dynamics of Maridan as a city in the forest, this research provides insights into the sustainability and well-being of the local community amidst significant social and economic changes, particularly in addressing issues of socioeconomic landscape change with the presence of the National Capital City (IKN) of Nusantara.

Keywords: Maridan, Corporation, Displacement, Attachment, Social-Economic

Tourism Traps: Trajectories of tourism-related displacement in Indonesia

Kari Grøtterud Telle (Chr.Michelsen Institute (CMI), Bergen, Norway)

Across Asia governments are launching major tourism development projects. The scale of these projects means that large swathes of land are turned into exclusive tourism zones geared toward capital accumulation, putting great pressure on local communities to cede land and common-pool resources. Typically, these projects involve forcible land acquisitions and communities being relocated to make way for these investments undertaken in the name of 'development', 'public good' or enhanced 'connectivity.' Forced migration caused by large tourism projects is often treated as a form of 'development-induced displacement.' Yet this concept assumes what needs to be examined: what qualifies as 'development' and to what extent displaced groups are beneficiaries or victims of large-scale tourism projects. This paper will examine forced migration and relocation processes in relation to the Mandalika tourism 'special economic zone' on the Indonesian island of Lombok. This US \$ 3 billion 'urban development and tourism project' is managed by the Indonesian Tourism Development Corporation, with substantial funding from the Beijing-based Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Drawing on project documents, the first part of the paper will examine how project developers envisioned future livelihood opportunities in the relocation site and the measures taken to realize these objectives. Drawing on interviews and ethnographic observations, the second part of the paper will discuss the gap between the optimistic scenarios envisioned in project documents and policy narratives and on-the-ground realities in the relocation site where poor families are struggling to maintain decent livelihoods. The paper concludes with critical reflections on how people who been displaced by tourism developments are 'trapped' into dependence on irregular income from tourism.

Understanding Stereotypes Towards Refugees Using Malaysian Data

Melati Nungsari (*Asia School of Business*), Rachel Decruz; Chin Pei Yi; Nicole Fong

This study examines stereotypes held by citizens of a non-resettlement host country towards refugees. Through the usage of qualitative data in the Malaysian context, the nuances of positive and negative stereotypes are unraveled to provide a richer understanding of the complexities that underlie a nation's response to refugees. Malaysia, an upper middle-income country in Southeast Asia, is host to more than 180,000 refugees and asylum-seekers – the largest in the region. It is also not party to the 1951 Refugee Convention, implying that refugees exist in a legal and socioeconomic limbo with no or limited access to basic human rights such as right to healthcare and education for children. However, many refugees in Malaysia have spent their entire lives in Malaysia, as the majority (more than 55%) of refugees are the Rohingya people of Rakhine State in Myanmar, where persecution against this Muslim population have dated since at least the 1970s (Zarni & Cowley, 2014). This paper combines insights from the fields of study that look at stereotypes and the concept of home and belonging to migratory populations. Briefly, the concept of stereotypes is not easily crystallised (Schneider, 2005). It has its roots in generalisations which is a “central, primitive, hard wired cognitive activity” for humans (Schneider, 2005). Stereotypes generally refer to characteristics that are applied to groups based on identification-motivated characteristics like their nationality, ethnicity or gender (Schneider, 2005). In this paper, we first present a theoretical model that combines existing findings from the academic literature to posit that negative stereotypes may cause negative effects to refugee populations through either direct bias or prejudice or through general feelings of unwellness (manifesting either as physical or psychological symptoms), which in turn causes a lack of a feeling with belonging or “home”, which then feeds back into the lessened (i.e. negative) physical and psychological state. From six focus group discussions, sources of the stereotypes are examined and the extent to which individuals have internalized the adoption of a stereotype is noted. Analysis of the findings show that most stereotypes are articulated as an individual's own opinion, not directly externally forced onto the citizens. This study posits that the finding bodes well for the mutability of the negative manifestation of stereotypes to positive.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 7
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 27

(Re)ception/Knowledge: Urban Displacement and Gentrification

IASFM20 New Panel 10

Kotagede: Preserving Identity in the Face of Gentrification

Pinurba Parama Pratiyudha (Universitas Gadjah Mada)

Gentrification involves changes in the social and geographical contours of communities, either through forced or soft-forced means, leading to the displacement of certain groups from their habitats. In major cities globally, gentri-ication is often linked to the process of urban space capitalization and development that prioritizes economic growth. Urban spaces undergo commodi-ication aimed at industrialization, market expansion, and consumerism. In the context of Global South countries, the reality of gentrification is closely tied to the ambition of development to achieve welfare standards that refer to urban development in the Global North. Indonesia, as a Global South country, also experiences gentri-ication driven by urban area development to support economic growth and global standards. Yogyakarta, one of Indonesia's major cities, exempli-ies this phenomenon through its development policies and symbolic pursuits. As a city known for tourism, education, and culture, Yogyakarta's policies and social dynamics strive to realize these identities within the framework of industrialization. The social and cultural values of urban spaces in Yogyakarta are transitioning to cater to market needs, particularly in tourism and education sectors. However, within this transformation, Kotagede emerges as an area experiencing a different kind of gentri-ication. Kotagede holds historical signi-icance as the birthplace of Islamic culture in Java, particularly Yogyakarta. The historical values in Kotagede have been preserved in both the social life of the community and the spatial values. This paper delves into how Kotagede manages to maintain and adapt amidst the gentri-ication around it, while also exploring the unique aspects of the community's social history. The research employs a case study approach, focusing on the historical narratives of Kotagede and contextualizing current conditions through in-depth interviews and observations. Findings from the research reveal that historically, Kotagede has developed as an enclave distinct from other areas in Yogyakarta. Despite experiencing in-lux, Kotagede retains its local values by adapting to contemporary dynamics. Furthermore, the community's strong understanding of their identity as Kotagede residents, characterized by unique social values and identity, is evident. This distinctive attachment enables Kotagede residents, both consciously and unconsciously, to negotiate 'development' through community activities, local tourism development, and cultural activities. These findings imply that a community can survive gentrification through independent adaptation.

Keywords: Kotagede, Development, Gentrification

Legitimacy of the king in entrepreneurial Yogyakarta, detachment of the people and UNESCO World Heritage list

Ofita Purwani (Universitas Sebelas Maret)

This paper focuses on the recent heritage revitalization of the centre of Yogyakarta, in order to get listed in UNESCO World Heritage List. This revitalization involves displacement of people's settlements and shops along the 'philosophical axis' as the main point for the proposal for UNESCO. While the old legitimacy of the existing king put the king as a servant to the people with managerial role, the recent

revitalization completely detaches the king from the people. Accommodating people to live in the King's land was considered the role of the king with the slogan 'the throne for the people'. The main royal ritual which included people's night market is also now detached from the people by removing the night market further away from the palace and renaming it. This paper then questions how the current legitimacy is gained differently from the previous kind of legitimacy. The different situation now where the royal court of Yogyakarta had more power after the passing of the Law of Privilege in 2012 that grants the king to be automatically appointed governor along with other privileges, had made it possible for the royal court to assert its domination upon its people and manifest it in the urban space.

A Tale of Two Civilities and the Urban Commons in Jakarta and Yogyakarta

Achmad Firas Khudi, Gilang Mahadika (Universitas Gadjah Mada)

Urban areas have similar problems when managing people, space, and the environment. Jakarta and Yogyakarta are sites we are currently working on to see the series of changes within urban development projects enacted by the respective governments that affect the urban commons, e.g., people at Kampung Akuarium and the displaced people. We are inspired by the ethnographic work of Erik Harms' *Luxury and Rubble* (2016), which shows that civility and dispossession are bound together. Talking about "the right to the city" is inevitably linked with the process of displacement, eviction, and dispossession (Harms, 2016: 4). Kampung Akuarium in Jakarta showed a displacement experienced by the residents, resulting in a mass of civil unrest against the local government in 2016, while water supply and the displacement of street vendors in Malioboro are unavoidable due to tourism heritage programs initiated by the Yogyakarta city government. These two cases are what we expect to answer our research question on how the people manage their livelihoods and struggle for their citizenship in the urban areas. Most people we researched are not from the city areas and look for better living conditions. They usually come from other cities, especially the street vendors in Yogyakarta and the residents in Kampung Akuarium, Jakarta, who migrated long ago and recently. Hence, we would like to present the current research results to broaden our ideas on the relationships between civility and displacement in cities in Indonesia. This research accomplishes a collaborative analysis regarding the displacement experienced by the displaced people of Yogyakarta and the Akuarium. It combines two evictions to identify the underlying relevance of civilities and responses from displaced people. We analyze by using multiple sites to reconceptualize the idea of civility that strongly relates to urban citizenship, founded upon exclusion and displacement. There is a photo series that we use to illustrate and elaborate urban civilities and community response. The displacement process in different sites usually provides us with varied knowledge, worldviews, and subjectivities according to the people we research and how they make sense of their lives in terms of keeping up with urban developments. George E. Marcus (1995) proposes the alternative method of doing an ethnography, that is, multi-sited ethnography, which is a method that is intended to "reconfigure the conditions for the study of contemporary cultures and societies" (Marcus, 1995: 103). Urban civilities in Jakarta and Yogyakarta work as a mode of spatial exclusion of coercion and regulation. Here, evictions displace people in Kampung Akuarium with violence in Jakarta and at a slower pace in Yogyakarta. In Jakarta, Governor Ahok evicted them either for the enlargement conservation of the Old Town or the development of a coastal embankment of the National Capital Integrated Coastal Development (NCICD), even though he never formally admitted which reasons. Yogyakarta government initiated the heritage program based on an imaginary line or "sumbu imajiner" as the legacy of thought introduced by the Prince of Mangkubumi, and his royal heritage buildings became the World Heritage (Humas Widya Mataram, 2021). As a response, the research identifies how bodily resistance happens toward urban civilities. Akuarium people in Jakarta embodied everyday resistance on how mother opened their clothes to stop eviction in 1996 and how there was a musalla or praying site renamed into Al-Jihad to spark energy of resistance as in Picture

1 above. Similarly, the local residents in Yogyakarta usually call themselves "wong cilik" (small people) as an expression of ethical citizenship, struggling to have "right to the city" and playful resistance with showering with sand, as in Pictures 2 and 3 below.

Keywords: civility, eviction, and resistance

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 8 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 28

(Re)conception: Health and Wellbeing

IASFM20 New Panel 11

Ecological Stressors and Mental Health of Adolescent Migrants in Athens, Greece

Dylan Ratnarajah (Cornell University, Georgetown School of Medicine)

In Europe, political and cultural reactions have "securitized" refugees, depicting them as threats. Media emphasizes their "otherness" and neglects their perspectives, obscuring their daily struggles and exacerbating psychological distress. Children and youth are particularly affected, as adverse experiences during pre-migration, transit, and post-migration correlate with long-term physiological and psychological issues. This study examines the impact of various ecological stressors on the psychological, physical, and overall well-being of adolescent refugees in community centers in Athens, Greece, by analyzing both individual and cumulative post-migration stressors.

The participants (ages 10–25) were recruited from five refugee community centers located in different neighborhoods across Athens. A 47-question survey was used with two main subsections: 1) Refugee Health Screener (RHS) and 2) Demographics and Ecological Risk. The RHS assessed physical and psychological distress with fourteen questions on a 0–4 scale, plus a 'distress thermometer' rating distress in the past week from 0 (no distress) to 10 (extreme distress). Scores ≥ 12 on questions 1–14, or ≥ 5 on the distress thermometer indicated likely emotional distress. The second subsection included original survey questions on refugees' demographics and post-migration ecological risk factors. These factors were converted into binary variables, with a score of "1" indicating present risk. The seven risk factors studied were: parental death, presence of a close friend, residential mobility, water security, food security, health care security, and access to electricity. Each participant received a cumulative risk score from 0 (no risk) to 8 (all risks present).

All but 2 participants reached the threshold for emotional distress. Significant positive Point Biserial correlations were each found between lack of access to clean water and electricity and RHS scores. A positive correlation also existed between perceived negative attitudes from native Greek people and RHS scores. These three variables were significantly correlated with the distress thermometer, supporting its use alongside items 1–14. The mean cumulative risk score was 2.20. There was a positive correlation between cumulative risk score and the distress thermometer. Ecological cumulative risk was positively correlated with the number of physical (but not psychological) symptoms reported on the RHS.

The study supports the impact of cumulative risk exposure on youth refugee well-being. While no significant correlation was found between overall Refugee Health Screener (RHS) scores and cumulative risk, a significant correlation emerged between cumulative risk and the physical symptom scores of the RHS. This suggests somatization as a defense mechanism against trauma in refugee adolescents. Lack of access to clean water and electricity were individually correlated with overall RHS scores, indicating both physical and psychological symptoms like anxiety, depression, and PTSD. These factors likely correlate significantly due to their foundational role in physiological and safety needs.

Overall, while pre-migration trauma predicts mental disorders and PTSD, post-migration factors are equally crucial in determining mental health. Post-migration stressors can influence recovery from

pre-migration trauma, highlighting the need for therapeutic interventions that address broader conditions affecting refugees and asylum seekers.

Reflections from ‘Wellbeing Workshops’ with refugee background children in Brighton, UK

Liliane Broschart (University of Brighton)

The number of children living in the UK with a refugee background is growing yearly. These children are often disproportionately impacted by societal challenges and research identifies the important role that education plays in improving equal opportunities for them. Specifically, learning English and developing literacy skills has been shown to improve social interaction, help with understanding of UK systems and increase higher educational opportunities. However, less is known about the types of resources involved in this process, how this relates to Refugee Background Children (RBC)’s wellbeing and – crucially – what RBC’s own perceptions are of their wellbeing. This study is one of four within my PhD research, specifically aimed at addressing this latter gap in knowledge about RBC’s understanding of what wellbeing means to them, and how this relates to their English literacy acquisition, educational spaces and language practice. This study brought together seven primary age children (ages 6–9), in two separate sessions. The workshops used creative methods – drawing, mind-mapping and photo elicitation – to gather children’s feelings about wellbeing. In the first session, children were asked to draw/write down words associated with their understanding of what wellbeing might mean, which led on to a discussion of ideas relating to positive and negative wellbeing. Children wrote and drew on a large, collective piece of paper in a mind map format. We then had a discussion of how these positive and negative experiences relate specifically to: their experience at school; reading and writing; literacy resources; digital tools; and using other languages. Again, children wrote or draw ideas related to these areas on a shared mind map, as well as each individually completed a scale task, placing different objects – EG school – on a ‘wellbeing’ scale, of five ascending emotional states. The second session brought together the children to discuss and look at pictures they had taken over the week. I used recording of the sessions, images of all the drawn and written outputs, all the photos that were taken under the brief, as well as images of the wellbeing scale for each child, when analysing the sessions. The core themes that arose from this analysis were: importance of showing and seeing themselves; value of personal possessions; connection to peers and family; objects of comfort; enjoyment of digital learning; passion for home culture and language. This presentation will discuss these findings and demonstrate the importance of using them to address what is needed to improve RBC’s experience of English literacy and language acquisition, the types of resources that work best and the specific support that is needed, in line with enhancing their wellbeing. The study and presentation aligns with Theme 1’s subtheme of ‘Inclusion of refugees’ voices, due to its co-produced approach and core focus on understanding wellbeing – a concept usually defined by adults, with a non-refugee background from the perspectives of RBC themselves.

Exploring the Basic Needs of Refugees in Indonesia: A Systematic Review and Bibliometric Analysis

Cifebrima Suyastri (Eotvos Lorand University Budapest), Mohammad Thoriq Bahri (University of Szeged)

This systematic review and bibliometric analysis aim to explore the basic needs of refugees in Indonesia, focusing on mental health outcomes and access to preventive sexual and reproductive health care. A comprehensive search was conducted in the Scopus database, and relevant articles were screened and assessed for inclusion. Data extraction and quality assessment were performed, and a narrative synthesis was conducted to summarize the findings. Additionally, a bibliometric analysis using VOSviewer software provided insights into research trends and publication patterns in

this field. The systematic review identified various studies highlighting the challenges faced by refugees in accessing healthcare services and the implications for their mental health and well-being. For instance, Bloch & Schuster (2005) highlighted extreme measures such as deportation, detention, and dispersal impacting refugee well-being. Chatty (2010) discussed displacement and dispossession in the modern Middle East, while Hossain & Dawson (2022) focused on the sexual and reproductive health needs of Afghan and Rohingya refugee women. Crépeau & Atak (2016) addressed global migration governance and its impact on the human rights of migrants and asylum seekers, and Palmgren (2011) emphasized the importance of social networks and support systems for refugees in Southeast Asia. The bibliometric analysis revealed key authors, institutions, and research collaborations in this area. Colorado State University emerged as the most affiliated institution, followed by the University of Saskatchewan and Oregon State University. The findings of this systematic review and bibliometric analysis contribute to understanding the basic needs of refugees in Indonesia and can inform future interventions and policies to address these needs effectively.

Urban Displacement & Data: Using the DTM to Understand the Needs and Vulnerabilities of IDPs in Urban Contexts

Hong Tran-Jones (International Organization for Migration)

This session provides an overview of the International Organization for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix and the tools used to understand the who, where, why as well as the needs and vulnerabilities of the internally displaced in urban centres, providing specific examples and case studies where DTM was implemented to serve humanitarian and development actors to support in response, transition and recovery.

Technology, healthcare access and urban displacement

Muhammad Zaman (Boston University)

This session will focus on how technology (digital and healthcare) can both improve healthcare access among forcibly displaced communities (refugees, IDPs and stateless persons) and can simultaneously increase marginalization, discrimination and exploitation. For example, increased reliance on digital technologies by states can exclude communities with an ever greater ease from basic health services. Similarly, data gathering and sharing can increase vulnerabilities of communities. My own presentation will focus on stateless communities in Karachi, and the impact access and denial of technology is having on their ability to access essential healthcare. I will talk about how denial of technology, and weaponization of technology during the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in denial of lifesaving healthcare among the stateless communities in Pakistan. I will also talk about ethical dimensions of technology design, gaps in data privacy policies and the ways to address these gaps through inclusive design, ethical regulation and equitable access.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 9 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 29

Urban Refugees' Experiences of Work: Causes and Consequences

Emily Arnold-Fernández (Refugee Law Initiative, University of London)

Yusra Herzi (PILnet)

For forced migrants living in urban spaces, the dynamics of urban life and social welfare mean that paid work is often essential to survival. Too often, however, forced migrants report that they have access to paid work only in conditions of grave injustice. Efforts by states and multilateral institutions to advance so-called “self-reliance” of displaced people are plagued by myriad flaws; these flaws are not adequately mitigated – and in some cases are magnified by the global agenda on migration and displacement. Presenting original research and analysis from urban settings in Southeast Asia, Africa, Western Asia and Latin America, this panel will examine causes and consequences of current regimes that shape forced migrants’ experiences as workers. Speakers, including displaced scholars and their allies, will offer recommendations for refining or re-shaping the global agenda on displacement to improve the experiences of work for displaced people, in urban settings and beyond.

Refugees At Work: Rights and Realities in Malaysia

Yusra Herzi (PILnet)

Forced displacement impacts all aspects of a refugee’s life, including their working life. For refugees, the workplace should, under international law, be a place where they are treated fairly. In practice, however, they are regularly excluded from systems designed to prevent and redress unfair treatment at work. Centering the voices and perspectives of refugees, author Yusra Herzi examines the experiences of refugee workers in Malaysia in comparison with their rights under Malaysian and international law. Confronting the ways in which the Malaysian government and international organizations act -- or fail to act -- to affect refugees’ experiences of work, the paper draws on the author’s experience as a refugee in Malaysia and as a professional advocate for refugee workers within Malaysia’s worker protection system. Touching on themes of displacement, equity, and inclusion, the paper concludes with practical recommendations for new ways to bring refugees’ lived experiences of work in line with international norms that promise fair and equitable treatment in the workplace.

A Forgotten Response and An Uncertain Future: Venezuelans’ Economic Inclusion in Colombia

Marta Guerrero Ble (Refugees International)

Since the beginning of the Venezuelan exodus – arguably the largest forced displacement situation in the world as of late 2023 – Colombia has acted exceptionally to integrate 3 million Venezuelan refugees, ensuring their access to rights and their integration into Colombia’s economy and society. Among other steps to grant regular status to Venezuelans, and foster their self-reliance, access to work, and inclusion into national systems, in 2021, Colombia instituted a mass regularization program to grant legal status and work authorization to its Venezuelan population through the Estatuto Temporal de Protección de Migrantes Venezolanos (ETPV). This paper analyzes the situation in late 2023, following Colombian president Gustavo Petro’s changes in the government’s response to

Venezuelan displacement. These changes affected coordination across government and non-government agencies, and efforts to integrate Venezuelans into the Colombian economy and society. This paper illustrates how this shift in the response impacted Venezuelans in Colombia and their economic inclusion.

A key finding of the paper is that the regularization process, without other efforts to support Venezuelans' economic integration, was not sufficient to enable Venezuelans to access decent and stable jobs. Obtaining formal jobs remained a major challenge for many Venezuelans, while Informal jobs were necessary to survival but often rife with exploitation and abuse. Exacerbating the lack of support for economic integration, in 2023, donors implemented major cuts in their support for the Venezuelan response, decreasing funding for an already severely underfunded appeal. Humanitarian organizations in Colombia faced major budget cut-outs, affecting the delivery of programs to support Venezuelans. While Colombia was also receiving funds from the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCF)—a multi-donor trust that provides loans at below market rates and grants to large refugee hosting middle income countries that otherwise would not be able to access such financing—the changes in government structure affected the implementation of such programs. The paper explores the role of cities and towns in mitigating economic integration gaps. Colombian municipalities stepped up to support the integration of displaced Venezuelans, with many opening centers where Venezuelans could seek help and guidance to access government services, such as registering to the social security and health systems, finding a job, or obtaining legal support. Bogotá and Medellín, the two largest Venezuelan-hosting municipalities in Colombia, took additional measures to promote the socio economic inclusion of Venezuelans. Through these measures, many Venezuelans had access to quality support at the local level to promote their integration. The paper analyzes the situation of Venezuelan socio-economic inclusion in Colombia and the new dynamics under which Venezuelans join the Colombian economy, and concludes with recommendations for a variety of actors, including the Colombian government, international donors, humanitarian organizations and the Global Concessional Financing Facility.

The Political Economy of Nationality-Based Labor Inclusion Strategies: A Case Study of the Jordan Compact

Shaddin Almasri (Danube University Krems)

In a setting of protracted refugee crises, donor responses increasingly have taken on experimental development approaches that have implications for temporality and human rights. One such aid experiment is that of the Jordan Compact, drafted in February 2016. This aimed to turn the Syrian refugee crisis in Jordan into a development opportunity, by fostering job creation and harvesting skills of displaced populations. This brought with it attention from donors in the form of political interest and, more importantly, funding, to stimulate the local economy and labor markets. However, the implementation of this plan was problematic: It focused only on stimulating jobs for Syrians and Jordanians, with little attention given to existing labor market dynamics and other employed nationality groups. Using a qualitative approach informed by both desk research and key informant interviews, this article shows that the policies undertaken have formed a nationality-based prioritization strategy that sought to improve Syrian labor market access over that of other non-Jordanians. The Compact did little to address genuine job creation or social protection, focusing on boosting permit numbers while worsening non-Syrian migrant and refugee access to protection in formal work. Drawing on these findings, the author offers reflections on the broader lessons illuminated by the Jordan case study, and the implications for migration, development, and rights.

Beyond Access: Refugees' Rights and Justice At Work

Emily Arnold-Fernández (Refugee Law Initiative, University of London)

Despite myriad barriers to participation in formal labor markets, refugees widely engage in work for pay. Nonetheless, refugees and their descendants, particularly in the Global South, frequently experience intergenerational poverty and an endemic lack of economic power despite their widespread participation in income-generating work. While recent research has overturned a persistent myth that refugees are merely marginal economic participants, little analysis has been done on the global economic systems and power structures that affect refugees' labor market participation and entrench poverty—the very antithesis of the Sustainable Development Goals' promise to “Leave No One Behind.”

This paper contributes to filling that gap. The barriers to achieving justice for refugee workers are myriad and complex. Among the simpler obstacles are misinformation and underinvestment: refugees' rights related to work and the benefits of refugees' access to just work are widely misunderstood. As a result, existing justice mechanisms are underused, and both labor rights enforcement and access to justice for refugee workers are under-resourced. More complex is the political economy that entrenches refugee poverty and exploitation. Refugees are among those who often lack the legal infrastructure needed for justice: legal identity and formal or regularized work. Meanwhile, governance gaps mean worker protections are weak. States, already underinvesting in worker rights enforcement, have even less incentive to protect refugee workers who are not nationals or constituents. At the same time, global supply chains and other labor markets are often structured and (un)regulated in ways that reward and even rely on exploitation, such that individual employers often cannot feasibly reject injustice if they are to remain profitable.

This paper argues that displacement-focused donors and multilaterals, sometimes lacking a nuanced understanding of these dynamics, have at times acquiesced in or endorsed initiatives that, in practice, funnel refugees into exploitative jobs, resulting in adverse incorporation: Refugees are incorporated into their host communities only on terms that extract disproportionate value from their efforts, entrenching them in inescapable poverty. The paper concludes with by discussing ways to shift these dynamics, including collaborative efforts to mainstream refugees in existing state laws and justice systems that safeguard work-related rights, and to strengthen legal protections and justice mechanisms for workers generally. Offering concrete, actionable recommendations, the paper makes a compelling case that such changes are necessary.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 11.00–12.30 WIB
Venue : Room 10 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 3, Panel 30

Cities as Subterranean Sites for Contestation and Cooperation in Migrant Politics

Susan Banki (University of Sydney)

Achilles Kallergis (Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, New School for Social Research)

It is already well known that cities are spaces that hold unique political power due to their density of capital, persons, and ideas. This has been explored with regard to how cities govern disempowered populations already (for example, van Blerk 2013), and migrants in particular (Netto, Baillie et al. 2021). Cities can support invisible (even undocumented) actors (Swerts 2017) at the same time that they offer enormous material, social, and media potential for performative politics (Schwedler 2020). Cities also have the resources to work over, above, and under standard political channels. In other political contexts, this has been referred to as infrapolitics, in which resisters occupy physical spaces that are unseen by authorities to avoid traditional modes of governance (Scott 2009). In the context of cities, the kinds of politics that migrants enact take on different meanings, and the spaces that resisters occupy can be social, economic or environmental, as well as physical and/or digital.

In this panel, we explore the city as a site for subterranean politics for migrants. Through examinations of migrant cooperation and contestation in both the Global North and Global South, both with documented and undocumented migrants, this panel explores the urban elements that strengthen, stem, or otherwise shape the operation of migrant politics in cities.

We then explore the city as a subterranean site for the ways that migrants experience precarity, performance, and politics. Through examinations of these experiences in both the Global North and Global South, both with documented and undocumented migrants, this panel explores the urban elements that strengthen, stem, or otherwise shape the enactment of citizenship or non-citizenship. Nasreen Chowdhory and Shamna Thacham Poyil's paper theoretically engages with the idea of citizen-migrant and the right to the city. Rumana Hashem offers a racialized gendered account of migrant experience in the changing cities in post-Brexit UK, locating the troubling ways that migrants and women immigrants of colour must contest identities put upon them by "nationals." Saie Shetye examine the evolution of policies for refugees and the everyday lives of refugees of populations in Delhi while arguing for policies on durable solutions within and outside the country.

Diaspora Trajectories in Space and Time: Urban Homeland Politics Against Myanmar and Ukraine

Susan Banki (University of Sydney)

Scholars of immigrant politics have noted among diaspora communities a phenomenon of 'diaspora death', in which homeland activism fades, starved of resources and attention, and eventually morphs into hostland activism, as immigrants seek to improve life where they are living. In short, immigrant activism wins over homeland activism for reasons of convenience and funding. But this claim requires interrogation. Diaspora communities react not only to attention and resources, but to the temporal and spatial landscapes that confront them. In this paper, I challenge the notion of diaspora death by examining homeland activism in the context of urban landscapes, with its contradictory dimensions of performativity and anonymity. And I examine temporal contexts subsequent to abrupt and severe repression at home. Relying on conceptual frameworks from urban studies, immigrant politics, and spatial justice, and focusing on two recent events – the coup in Myanmar and the invasion of Ukraine – I examine urban diasporas in NYC following these events. I argue that urban diaspora communities

develop responses to repression at home that operate outside of formalized advocacy channels. Through this infrapolitical approach, the city is not just a backdrop to protest and activism, but, through architecture, art, and everyday intercultural politics, is a living actor in diaspora mobilisation.

Keeping the Gateway Open: New York’s infrapolitics of migrant reception

Achilles Kallergis (Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, New School for Social Research)

The recent arrival of hundreds of thousands of migrants and asylum seekers from Latin America and other world regions to US cities has invigorated the deeply polarizing debate surrounding immigration policy in the US. This time, attention has shifted from the border and new migrant destinations to the streets of historical immigration gateway cities, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, El Paso, and others. Mayors of these politically prominent cities have been sending out mixed messages, on the one hand, acknowledging their general support for migrants on the other, appearing overwhelmed in their ability to respond to migration essentially the force responsible for replenishing many of these cities throughout their history. The contradictions in both political discourse and policy action have been particularly ubiquitous in New York, the city of immigrants. The initial recognition of New York’s legacy as a migrant sanctuary city rapidly transformed into a ‘migrant crisis.’ Overwhelmed by the significant numbers of asylum seekers and migrants New York’s Mayor warned that the crisis could “destroy the city.”

This paper discusses the ‘migrant crisis’ and the response of New York City from the evolving perspective of migration governance. We argue that the political impasse and subsequent coordination failures between state actors traditionally involved in immigration policy (Federal, State, city-local) resulted in a reconfiguration of migration governance. Amidst this reconfiguration, non-state actors (migrants, mutual-aid and migrant supporting organizations) have generated new practices and strategies for migrant emplacement. Collectively these actions contribute to the infrapolitics of migrant city-making. The paper documents these infrapolitics in the particular context of New York City. It situates the rise of migrant infrapolitics in the structural transformations that urban and migration governance have been experiencing in the past two decades summarized in this paper by three key trends: 1) the retraction of the Nation-State from the politics of assimilation, marked by the myopic focus across the political aisle on border management and securitization to the detriment of other deeply underfunded aspects of migration governance, including the development on new legal migration channels, migrant processing, settlement, and resettlement, 2) the abandonment of cities as the de facto ‘integration engines’ reflected in the hollowing of public investments in urban services and low- and middle-income housing in larger high productivity labor market cities, and 3) the rise of a new migration industry that replaces older national and local government functions through outsourcing, the corporatization and privatization of services, and the development of migrant surveillance and detention economies. Under this reconfiguration, migrants and asylum seekers are explicitly perceived as politically ‘costly’ (both literally and metaphorically) though implicitly recognized as economically ‘necessary’ for ensuring growth and revitalization. Ultimately, through the case of New York, the paper explores and questions the evolving role of cities as emblematic spaces of migration governance.

Urban Refugee-hood and Survival in the Absence of Humanitarian Cover

Udita Ghosh (UC Irvine)

The global refugee regime alternates between the intense bureaucratization of paused humanitarian living in refugee camps and the complete absence and withdrawal of space and assistance in urban areas, in the Global South. Since the mid-1990s, when the UNHCR defunded urban assistance

programs, the organization has decisively and universally withdrawn refugee care and maintenance in urban areas. Instead the self-reliance approach prevails. This paper explores refugee voices from urban spaces. What happens to “humanitarian living” outside of the demarcated spaciality of refugee camps away from border spaces? For the millions of refugees living across cities and towns in the Global South, neither the state nor the international organization provide aegis marking the refugee’s claims for care in urban areas. The state has no refugee policy and no obligations, and the UNHCR retreats into the shadows after determining refugee status. Urban refugees are expected to provide for themselves and live on their own like the millions of other people inhabiting Global South cities such as Kuala Lumpur or New Delhi. Consequently, daily life involves sharing space, concerns and access with non-refugees on their turf. While socioeconomic and legal precarity mark refugee lives in urban spaces, unbounded city spaces provide anonymity alongside unfamiliarity and a loose common urban civic culture. Through a critical reading of refugee interviews in the media, in the vast urban ecologies of the Indian and Malaysian capital cities, I examine interactions that reconstitute a refugee as a humanitarian actor in spaces otherwise unbounded and unmarked by the “humanitarian condition”. I show that it is in the reach towards any kind of futurity that the urban citizen becomes reconstituted as a refugee, an “imperialized” subject of “nonsovereign displacement” (Gandhi 2021), whose future is mortgaged for current survival. Although the refugee must enact all the modes of urban survival that a non-refugee does, their future remains dislocated and inaccessible under conditions of prolonged temporary asylum in the Global South.

The city and the un/making of citizen-migrants

Nasreen Chowdhory (University of Delhi), Shamna Thacham Poyil

The nation-wide lockdown imposed by the Indian government in 2020 had an unbearable impact on mobility of migrants and non-citizens. To contain the virus various public places were ordered to be closed such as school, universities, government offices etc., which pushed the migrants to the insecurities of poverty, sickness, and starvation. But the consequences of the lockdown declaration were worse for the mobile labour population of the country that literally pushed them to the pit of deprivation. Tagged as ‘guest worker’ in state of domicile and denied access to the city, the migrant labourer is transformed into a pandemic citizen. Even in normality, the migrant labour is constrained by the challenge of being integrated to the spatially bounded citizenship of the body politic. Mobility that is central to the existence of migrant body is thereby juxtaposed to their capacity to be an equal citizen in our country. The compounded structural exclusion that plays out between their state of origin and state of destination has turned the migrant labor of the country to a citizen-migrant: an unequal and lesser citizen who is disempowered to access their rights and entitlements even passively from the state. The paper will be theoretically engaging with the idea of citizen-migrants and their right to the city.

Refugees and the (lack of) right to the city

Saie Shetye (Migration and Asylum Project)

The city of Delhi has witnessed waves of refugees occupying its spaces; the most prominent in India’s history being around the independence when thousands of Hindus and Sikhs fled from present-day Pakistan to India and were temporarily or permanently accommodated in various parts of Delhi where they were granted housing plots, permits to establish businesses, etc. Later, Delhi similarly accommodated displaced Bengali Hindus from present-day Bangladesh. Waves of refugees from Myanmar, Afghanistan, Tibet and elsewhere have found their way to Delhi over the years. While some have been accommodated through favourable policies, others have merely been allowed to exist on the margins of the city through informal channels, which might be understood as subterranean. India

does not have a domestic legal framework to process refugee claims and operates via an opaque and ad-hoc system to grant asylum while allowing UNHCR to process some claims for refugee status. The presentation will trace the evolution of policies regarding rehabilitation of refugees and their impact on present refugee populations in Delhi. These policies, in turn, impact access to all kinds of services for the refugees from employment, access to life saving health care and to education for their children. We look at how policies at different levels of governance and informal politics outside of these policies impact refugee lives. We also look at how the poor implementation of legislations allows for refugees to claim some spaces while still living precarious lives. With the lack of avenues for citizenship in India and the restrictive legal regime and the limited resettlement quotas, the paper explores the everyday lives of refugees and their infrapolitical actions while arguing for policies on durable solutions within and outside the country.

Contested and paradoxical accounts of refugees and im/migrant citizens of colour in English cities in the UK

Rumana Hashem (University of Brighton)

Collaborative community project and pilot study outcome have previously shown that refugees and undocumented migrants' experience in the UK are often as paradoxical as the colonial and neoliberal world is (Hashem and Dudman, 2016) and remaking home for irregular migrants and refugees are sometime impossible in mega city, London (Hashem, Dudman and Shaw, 2023), despite it being a multi-cultural city of paradox where refugees and migrants are simultaneously found resisting identity and representational politics. This paper goes beyond this argument and puts forward anew argument by drawing on contested narratives and lived experience of im/migrant citizens of colour from the global South which shows that while refugees and undocumented migrants experience spatial and material resources enabling them to organise for migrants politics and resist representation alongside cooperation, the infrapolitics of cities in the so called multi-cultural Britain disallows right to protest and remain to not only refugees and irregular migrants but also citizens with a background of international immigrant and scholar of colour. This argument is informed by post-colonial and deconstructive feminist theory which questions "can the subaltern speak" (Spivak, 2020)? Through illustrations and by juxtaposing intersectional narrative, oral history and autobiographical methodology, I will show that it is true in the context when citizens with such background and refugees from the global South do not simply want to cooperate, and when they refuse to give up their self-identity, dignity, right to posit, and right to protest human rights and land rights in a country they serve as citizens and workers. The paper draws on lived experience of three refugees, two undocumented women migrants, and the researcher's autobiographical narrative and lived experience for 17 years in three different English cities – Essex, London, and Brighton. I argue that the politics of migrants are interdependent, often controlled, and shaped by the infrapolitics of what is known as subterranean space.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 1
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 31

(Re)conception/Knowledge: Urban Displacement 2
IASFM20 New Panel 12

The Right to the City of Racialized Immigrants in Canadian Cities
Sonia Ben Soltane (University of Ottawa)

This paper aims to examine the right to the city of recent immigrants in Montreal and the Ottawa-Gatineau region, building on the empirical qualitative findings of two major research projects conducted over the past four years. By drawing on the theoretical frameworks of the right to the city developed by Lefebvre (Lefebvre 2009) and Harvey (Harvey et Le Roy 2011; Harvey 2003), as well as an intersectional framework (Cho, Crenshaw, et McCall 2013), we will analyze the collected empirical data through the lenses of social class, poverty, precarity, gender, and race. The first project, conducted between 2020 and 2022 in the Ottawa-Gatineau region, examined the integration challenges faced by recent immigrants during the COVID-19 pandemic. The second project, conducted between 2022 and 2024, focused on settlement sector workers who are themselves from an immigrant background and their situated perspectives on the support they offer to recent immigrants in the city. Empirical data from both projects will be used to examine the right to the city of recent racialized immigrants in three Canadian cities – Montréal, Ottawa, and Gatineau – through an intersectional lens. The proposed analyses will provide a reading of the ways in which gender, race and ethnicity, and precarity (both financial and of the immigration status) contributes to hindering a real and effective right to the city for racialized immigrants. The proposed analysis will explore the intersections of gender, race, ethnicity, and precarity (both economic and immigration-related) to shed light on the barriers that hinder the realization of an effective right to the city for racialized immigrants.

Development-induced Displacement and Homelessness in Seattle, Washington
Veronica Fynn Bruey (Athabasca University)

Seattle, the largest city in the State of Washington and the seat of King County – named after Native American Chief Si'ahl, is located on the eastern shore of the Puget Sound with an estimated population of 704,352 people. Driven by giant technology industries such as Microsoft, Amazon, and Google, the State of Washington, where Seattle is located, was ranked number one for economic activity in the United State in 2018. In 2017, the Seattle Metropolitan Area, which includes the three most populous counties – King, Snohomish, and Pierce – was ranked the top 17 best performing cities where America's jobs are created and sustained. Seattle increased economic growth comes as a trade-off, citing one of the fastest rising home prices and rents in the United States. Undeniably, as big technological companies expand across the Seattle Metropolitan area, real estate construction is exploding in downtown Seattle where homelessness due to development induced displacement is concerning. Studies have shown positive correlation between increase housing prices and homelessness. The internal displacement of vulnerable populations, including Indigenous peoples, homeless persons, and refugees, is mainly due to large scale development of big tech companies. Unfortunately, the lack of research and resource on this topic explain, in part, the reliance on newsprints, reports and other non-academic sources in this article. Drawing on desk review and

critical analysis of key terms associated with development induced displacement, the paper assesses the state of development-induced displacement of homeless peoples in Seattle due to big companies' expansion. The paper further argues that the indifference of using the term "internal displacement" to describe the situation of development-induced displacement in Seattle, the United States and Western society in general, makes it difficult to identify, name, and raise the complex issues of development-induced displaced homeless people in the Seattle Metropolitan Area. The paper concludes with a call to initiate and stimulate critical dialogue on furthering research in the area.

Forced Then Forced to leave Once Again: An Ethnographic Study of Undocumented migrants in Canada

Nellie Alcaraz (McGill School of Social Work)

It has been documented by a growing number of researchers that undocumented migrants in Canada endure a kind of life that can undoubtedly be described as inhumane and unjust. Their everyday existence is typically characterized by constant anxiety from the impending threats of getting reported and deported. They experience a manifold of barriers even when accessing basic services that are essential for survival. Despite the unimaginable mental distress of living without authorized immigration status combined with the daily economic hardships and societal exclusions, undocumented migrants maintain their position to continue to stay in Canada and resist removal. Utilizing a critical ethnographic methodology that would primarily rely on qualitative interviews, immersive fieldwork-observations, document analysis and focus group discussions, this study will aim to discover the personal, structural, and systemic factors that compel undocumented migrants to stay in Canada. This doctoral research project will attempt to problematize the push-pull theory and through the aspirations-capabilities framework, it will aim to discover the often-unacknowledged capacity of undocumented migrants to decide for themselves and how they make-do of the paltry, typically informal and irregular, resources they come across with.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 2
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 32

Refuge in the City: Access to Protection and Assistance for Refugees in Urban Lebanon

Maysa Baroud and Yara Mourad

(Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut)

This panel explores the multifaceted and intersectional challenges refugees in Lebanon face when exercising their “right to the city,” including accessing protection, services, and resources. Lebanon hosts over 1.5 million refugees, including refugees from Syria, Palestine, Sudan, and of other nationalities. The majority live among host community members in overpopulated, often underserved urban areas, where socioeconomic conditions have deteriorated significantly since the onset of Lebanon’s economic and financial crisis. This crisis has added an additional layer to the challenges that refugees in Lebanon face, straining basic infrastructure and service provision and limiting their access to services and resources. The situation is further complicated by an ambiguous legal and regulatory framework governing refugees, noting that Lebanon is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention nor its 1967 Protocol. Refugees also face ad hoc, restrictive policies and practices. The three presentations outlined for the panel on “Refuge in the City: Access to Protection and Assistance for Refugees in Urban Lebanon” complement each other by collectively addressing how marginalized groups within the refugee community navigate and negotiate their rights and access to protection, services, and resources within urban settings in Lebanon. Each presentation highlights different aspects of spatial, social, and economic marginalization, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of the urban refugee experience.

The first presentation examines collective action by Sudanese protection seekers at UNHCR’s office in Beirut. It shows how UNHCR’s spatial practices influence its relationship with protection seekers and how these relations intersect with broader dynamics of securitization. This exploration of space and agency directly ties into the conference theme of “(Re)conception of Urban Displacement and ‘The Right to the City’” by examining how refugees exercise their rights within constrained urban spaces. The second presentation shifts the focus to barriers in accessing essential services, specifically healthcare, due to gender identity. By highlighting the experiences of women and LGBTIQ+ Syrian refugees, it underscores the impact of identity on the accessibility of urban resources, thereby enriching the discussion on how urban environments can both enable and restrict rights based on identity. The third presentation complements the prior two by focusing on economic exclusion and the challenges Syrian refugees face in accessing formal employment. This aspect of the urban experience is crucial, as employment is a significant factor in determining one’s ability to reside, survive, and claim rights within a city.

Together, these presentations paint a multifaceted picture of how refugees in Lebanon are asserting their right to the city amidst complex challenges. They prompt a broader discussion on how policies can be reformed to enhance refugee rights in urban settings and how these urban settings can be adapted to better respond to refugees’ needs to ensure their access to protection, services, spaces, and economic opportunities in ways that respect and promote their dignity and agency.

“Disturbing the Work of the Office”: The Limits of Refugee Collective Action on “UNHCR Territory” in Beirut

Maja Janmyr (University of Oslo & Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs)

There is a tension in the policy and practice of refugee presence in and around the offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The core principle of direct accessibility to UNHCR is continuously balanced against other competing concerns. But what, in policy and practice, are these competing concerns? And at what point does the presence of refugees and other protection seekers become illegitimate from the perspective of UNHCR? Building on original empirical research, this presentation explores collective action by Sudanese protection seekers at UNHCR’s office in Beirut, Lebanon. It shows how the spatial practices of UNHCR influence its relationship with protection seekers, and how these relations intersect with broader dynamics of securitization. In Beirut, once a presence was considered to “disturb the work of the Office,” a more restrictive policy involving host state security was triggered. The presentation interrogates what it means to “disturb the work of the Office” in the context of a heavily securitized city and spotlights the blocking of UNHCR entrance doors in Beirut as a pivotal example of when collective action is considered by UNHCR to be so disturbing that protection seekers are to be forcibly removed from UNHCR “territory.”

Invisible Patients: Gender Identity as a Barrier to Accessing Healthcare Services for Syrian Refugees in North Lebanon

Jasmin Lilian Diab (Institute for Migration Studies & Lebanese American University)

The structure and modes of operation of Lebanon’s healthcare system cast a blind eye upon refugees’ unique challenges and needs; particularly, when they do not fit neatly into binary categories of vulnerability. This reality, coupled with clientelism and an overall lack of transparency at the level of public administration, gives health providers from outside the humanitarian space substantial amounts of subjective influence –and more importantly, the authority to be exclusionary. This study explores how gender identity has impacted access to healthcare services for Syrian refugees since 2019, with a specific focus on women and members of the LGBTIQ+ community. It focuses on Tripoli and Akkar, regions where socio-cultural sensitivities hinder women and LGBTIQ+ individuals from openly discussing their gender specific healthcare needs. Drawing on in-depth interviews with 40 experts and 50 Syrian refugees who self-identify as women or LGBTIQ+, this study implores an intersectional lens to explore how gender identity, expression and societal expectations impact their access to gender sensitive healthcare. It delves into refugees’ own perspectives on hierarchies in vulnerability and how socio-cultural norms silence them. Furthermore, the study examines how limited healthcare provider knowledge on gender-sensitive care amplifies these issues. In essence, it unpacks the vicious cycle created by a system that is both unwelcoming to refugees/blind to gender-specific needs alongside deeply ingrained cultural sensitivities, and how this combination feeds into a broader system of exclusion and strategic indifference when it comes to the intersectional needs of this group.

Navigating Uncertainty: Challenges Faced by Syrian Refugees Seeking Formal Employment in Lebanon

Maysa Baroud (Middle East Council on Global Affairs & Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs)

Syrian refugees in Lebanon are not afforded the rights or protections that come with refugee status. Their rights are governed by an ambiguous legal and regulatory framework, with ad hoc decisions by

the Lebanese government and the General Security Office affecting all aspects of their lives, including their ability to regularize their residency status and access formal employment. This, in turn, affects their ability to secure their livelihoods. The country is also in its fifth year of an unprecedented economic and financial crisis that has pushed both refugees and host community members deeper into poverty. As a result, 95% of Syrians in Lebanon work in the informal economy, where they face precarious conditions (based on an ILO assessment conducted in 2021). Within this context, several other dimensions also influence access to livelihoods among refugees, including temporality, connectedness, gender, and geography. As the situation for Syrian refugees in Lebanon becomes ever more restrictive, this presentation will highlight the challenges that Syrian refugees face in securing formal employment in Lebanon, including the legal, administrative, structural, and social/cultural challenges. Drawing on case study research looking at adaptation, resilience, and agency among Syrian refugees who are securing their livelihoods in the informal economy, it will also provide insights into the coping mechanisms that Syrian refugees in Lebanon are adopting to secure their livelihoods and meet their basic needs.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 3
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 33

Access to social protection for displaced people in urban areas (Part 2)

Michael Collyer (University of Sussex)

Final Discussant: Dr Tahir Zaman (University of Sussex, UK)

Navigating Hate: The Impact of Hate Speech on Refugee Access to Social Protection in Lebanon

Rouba Mhaissen (Sawa for development and aid), Dolf Te Lintelo (Institute of Development Studies), Mazead Alkredy and Lynn Kseibi (Sawa for development and aid)

This paper aims to study the relationship between hate speech and the provision of social protection for displaced people in the urban context in Lebanon. It is one of the countries that received the largest number of Syrian refugees compared to its population. Since Lebanon is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention, there are no laws that protect the rights of these refugees in line with international human rights law. Syrian individuals fleeing have been stripped of refugee rights such as health, education, and work. Displaced Syrians (as asylum seekers) rely mainly on the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the support of international organizations and local civil society. The community incubator, which varies from one local context to another, depending on the religious and social ties between Syrians and Lebanese has contributed to providing a measure of community protection for displaced Syrians. But this protection declined with the prolonged period of displacement and the economic crisis that worsened in Lebanon after 2019, which caused a deterioration in government performance at the service level. International aid has also decreased, and no longer covers the needs of the host community and refugees. The rise of hate speech against Syrian refugees in Lebanon has intensified hostilities, at times escalating into physical violence and endangering the safety of refugees. The motive behind this violence is to make refugees a scapegoat for the economic crisis, which has led to security campaigns and pressure for the unsafe return of refugees. While the intensity of hate speech varies across Lebanon, many municipalities continue to forcibly displace refugees from areas and dismantle temporary camps, forcing them to make complex choices in their search for safer places. Such rhetoric not only exacerbates tensions, but also undermines initiatives to provide social protection for Syrian refugees. This puts refugees' lives, mobility and access to basic services such as education, livelihoods and legal justice at risk. The paper seeks to unravel the intricate interplay between hate speech, government policies, aid provision, and access to social protection for refugees in Lebanon. Specifically, it aims to examine how the escalation of hate speech has impeded refugees' access to vital services and compromised their overall well-being, including their mobility and access to education, livelihood opportunities, and legal justice. The study will focus on two urban areas hosting Syrian refugees: Bar Elias in Bekaa and Karantina in Beirut. Methodologically, the research will utilize interviews and focused group discussions. Additionally, drawing on the results of the q-sort exercise, the study will employ a legal analysis framework to examine the urban context of refugee experiences in Lebanon.

Debt as Negative Insurance for Displaced People

Michael Collyer (University of Sussex), Rajth Lakshman (Institute of Development Studies), Ceri Oeppen and Tahir Zaman (University of Sussex)

Since the 2018 Refugee Compact, critical analysis of ‘self-reliance’ has highlighted the inadequacy of policy responses intended to support it. The suspicion that ‘self-reliance’ provides a justification for the withdrawal of support for displaced populations has a long history. Duffield’s (2008) analysis is based on a division between those who enjoy established regimes of social protection and ‘those expected to be self-reliant’. This paper extends this argument, building on research conducted between 2020 and 2024 in urban neighbourhoods and camps in four countries: DRC, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Pakistan. Research, including a large household survey (n=14,000), in-depth interviews and focus groups, investigated the economic life of these areas, understood in very broad terms to include both financial and non-financial flows and exchanges. One of the most significant findings of this research is the dominance of debt repayments in regular household expenditure as well as reliance on non-financial forms of debt.

Further investigation of the reasons behind this reliance on debt in the economic strategies of displaced households uncovers the significance of sudden emergencies, rather than ongoing expenditure as the initial cause of most debts. These emergencies faced by displaced households are typically related to an unplanned need for health-related expenditure or the sudden loss of earning potential. These are exactly the circumstances for which social insurance is available in wealthier countries. Instead of insurance, displaced households pick up the unavoidable expenses through taking on additional debt. The central argument of this paper is that debt fills a gap caused by the absence of social insurance policies; debt is negative insurance. Yet debt is much more damaging as it stays with households, accounting for as much as half of regular expenditure for many households. The consequences of lack of insurance justify Duffield’s division of the world’s population into the insured and the non-insured. These debts form a major barrier in any attempt at self-reliance, yet they also provide further evidence of the inadequacies of the self-reliance approach. Social insurance is a feasible policy response, our research highlights important examples of even extremely poor people developing community insurance policies without any external support. The need for effective social insurance should be seen as part of a new right to rely that replaces the harmful focus on self-reliance and the inevitable use of debt as negative insurance.

Gham Khadi as Indigenous Cultural Practice of Solidarity, Belonging and Care among The Displacement Affected Communities of Pakistan

Muhammad Ayub Jan and Shahida Aman (University of Peshawar)

Four million Afghan refugees have been living in Pakistan since 1979 in cities and specifically designated refugee camps. The post-colonial state of Pakistan has imposed more significant political and limited social and economic exclusion on these refugees. This paper probes whether such efforts of the state are equated by parallel efforts of Afghans and Pakistanis living as neighbours for decades to constitute a community and whether these communities forge a sense of belonging, display solidarity and express mutual care in times of crises and vulnerabilities. The findings of this paper are based on data collected through semi-structured interviews with Afghan refugees and Pakistanis living in the three districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan, i.e. Chitral, Peshawar and Haripur. Insinuating the less explored concepts of migration studies, i.e. ‘indigenous solidarity’ and ‘loyalty solidarity’ (Bauder and Juffs, 2020), the paper argues that Afghan refugees living in Pakistan have maintained bonds of solidarity with their Afghans and Pakistani kinsmen, neighbours, and friends through the indigenous cultural practices of gham khadi to alternate state propounded

'solidarity of loyalty' based on nationhood. gham khadi refers to 'gatherings commemorating death, marriage, birth, illness and other such events and designates the emotions of sorrow (gham) and joy (khadi) which they elicit'... it comprises 'a body of ideas and practices of life, in which happiness and sadness are understood as indissoluble and are celebrated communally within the networks of reciprocal social obligations' (Ahmed 2006: 2). The centrality of gham khadi to socio-economic world of these displacement affected communities is reflected in the expression we regularly encountered during the fieldwork, 'we keep social relationship through gham khadi'. Moreover, through gham khadi, a range of reciprocal financial, physical (labour), and emotional support is extended across kinship, ethnic and national boundaries by the displacement-affected communities in Pakistan. In this way, the paper reflects on how solidarity, care and belonging to a displacement-affected community is expressed in Pakistan.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 4
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 34

Integration through different lenses, contexts and scales

Linda Morrice (University of Sussex)

The term ‘integration’ is widely used in scholarship, policy and practice to capture the processes of change that occur following the migration of individuals or groups from one country to another (Garcés-Mascareñas and Penninx 2016). It has received considerable attention in academe (both positive and negative), and remains a pivotal concept shaping public policies and practical methodologies (Vertovec, 2020). Yet despite its enduring importance, there is no one accepted definition of integration and no agreement of what successful integration looks like, or how it can be measured (Castles, Korac, Vasta and Vertovec 2002). The ‘meanings vary from country to country, change over time, and depend on the interests, values and perspectives of the people concerned’ (Castles et al., 2002: 112). This symposium interrogates the concept of integration through different lenses, scales and contexts. Phillimore’s paper sets the scene by offering a comprehensive overview of refugee integration studies, highlighting where current attention is focused and where gaps in knowledge remain. In doing so, this paper establishes the current state of knowledge in refugee integration studies, identifies opportunities for future research to inform theory, policy and practice in the field of refugee integration. Morrice’s paper directly engages with some of the key criticisms of integration and presents revisions to the UK Home Office Indicators of Integration framework (Ager and Strang 2004). Through offering four core, co- developed principles: shared responsibility, context, multi-dimensionality and multi-directionality the paper offers a new framework for thinking about integration policy, practice and scholarship, which aim to mitigate some of the hostility towards forced migrants. Our final two papers bring an empirical lens to integration. Ozcurumez’s paper addresses the question of how scholars and policy makers approach the concept of vulnerability and integration in contexts of forced migration in emergency situations. Through an examination of national and regional natural disaster risk reduction strategies, emergency preparedness and response plans of Jordan, Lebanon and Türkiye, this paper considers how the needs and concerns of refugees and migrants are included, and how processes of integration are maintained in emergencies (such as earthquakes), which cause further displacement. Finally, Salem’s paper addresses the integration of refugee students into national education systems. This paper examines Syrian refugee students’ perspectives across three models of integration in Jordan (camp, second shift and host community schools) Drawing on qualitative and quantitative data, the paper highlights how each model gives rise to social arrangements which, in different ways, impede socially just and equitable education, and broader integration in Jordanian society.

Refugee integration scholarship: scoping the field and following the money

Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham), Jeanine Hourani (University of Exeter), Sarah Rockowitz, Sin Yi Cheung

Interest in refugee integration has been growing steadily since the early 2000s building on a long history of research into migrant adaptation initiated in the US in the 1930s by the Chicago School. Scholarship on refugee integration covers a wide range of topics and subjects focusing on different groups and places at different points in time. It also debates the usage of the term ‘integration’ in and of itself. While we know that the body of knowledge on refugees has expanded rapidly, less is known

about the nature of that knowledge. This paper fills a gap in scholarship and scopes the boundaries of the important and growing sub-field of refugee studies. The paper is based on a systematic scoping review of 3200 unique articles utilising the terms ‘refugee’ and ‘integration’ published between 2001 and 2022 and available on Web of Science and Scopus databases. We adopted quantitative methods to examine the trends in integration literature over time, the different themes and topics covered, the ways in which the sub-field is funded, the location of researchers, and the nature of research collaborations. We use bi-variate analyses to demonstrate the relationship between research themes, locations and funding highlighting an overwhelming bias of Global North-led and English language scholarship. Our paper offers the first comprehensive overview of refugee integration studies, highlighting where current attention is focused and where gaps in knowledge remain. In doing so, this paper establishes the current state of knowledge in refugee integration studies, identifies opportunities for future research to inform theory, policy and practice in the field of refugee integration.

Walking a tightrope between policy and scholarship: reflections on integration principles in a hostile environment

Linda Morrice (University of Sussex), Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham), Alison Strang

The term ‘integration’ has received considerable academic attention, much of it critical. Yet it continues to be widely used in policy and practice to capture the processes of change that occur following migration from one country to another. In an environment of increasing hostility and anti-migrant sentiment, we outline the process of working with the UK Home Office and a wide range of stakeholders to revise the original Home Office *Indicators of Integration framework* (Ager and Strang 2004). We directly engage with some of the key criticisms of integration through offering four core, co-developed principles: shared responsibility, context, multi-dimensionality and multi-directionality. We believe these principles cut through the normative tendencies of policymakers and offer a new framework for thinking about integration policy, practice and scholarship. Our work underlines the importance of scholars taking the opportunity to engage with policy and to present scientific evidence as a mechanism to confront hostile immigration practices.

Integration in Emergencies and Disasters: Vulnerabilities Explained, Protection Redefined

Saime Ozcurumez (Başkent University)

This paper seeks answers to the question: How do scholars and policy makers approach the concept of vulnerability and integration in contexts of forced migration in emergency situations? In order to respond to this question, the study will begin by examining the conceptualization of vulnerability, protection and integration in forced migration contexts based on a systematic literature review of the scholarly articles, reports of international organizations, international NGOs and policy reports of major refugee receiving countries in the Middle East disseminated in the post-2011 period. It will examine the transformation in the definition of the concepts of vulnerability, protection and integration by comparing the conceptualization provided at the international, national and local levels in response to natural disasters. The study will continue with a review of the national and regional natural disaster risk reduction strategies, emergency preparedness and response plans of Jordan, Lebanon and Türkiye. By doing so, the study will investigate how these countries account for the needs of refugees and migrants in emergency situations and the extent to which preparation, response, recovery and mitigation processes include their concerns and impact integration processes. The paper will contribute to the literature on theories and policies of integration by reflecting on theories of integration through a systematic analysis of empirical evidence of policy level response in emergencies particularly earthquakes which cause further displacement.

Syrian refugee students' experiences of integration into national education systems in Jordan: issues of equity and social justice

Hiba Salem (University of Oxford), Linda Morrice (University of Sussex)

The past decade has seen a policy shift from separate and parallel education systems for refugees to integration into national education systems. The benefits from integration, including longer-term planning, more sustainable funding and opportunities to improve the quality of education are highlighted in the literature. However, there has been less attention to how integration is implemented in practice, how different models of integration are experienced by refugee students, and the extent to which they provide quality education and advance social justice for refugee students. This paper draws on Nancy Fraser's principle of parity of participation and integration theory to examine Syrian refugee students' perspectives across three models of integration in Jordan (camp, second shift and host community schools). Drawing on qualitative and quantitative data, we highlight how each model gives rise to social arrangements which, in different ways, impede socially just and equitable education.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 5
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 35

The Pen and The Path: Literary Community and the Role for Advocacy

Nur Ade Irawan (Semut Merah Kaizen)

Also at Creative Display Exhibition Room

The panel will bring together members from a literary community to discuss about the role of literary communities and the great potential it has to be a bridge towards sanctuary. The panel will focus on literary as advocacy tools, particularly on its role to become a bridge for survivors towards sanctuary. Maria Meidiatami Kira will present an ethnography study which has been transformed into creative works as a song. This is a creative work of internal displacement survivor due to ethno-political conflict in Maluku in 1999–2005. This presentation will provide an understanding of how survivor of internal displacement view the issue through the lens of the literary community. Ike Dian Puspita will present a short film on urban displacement, taking stories about toll road construction in Klaten Regency as the main focus. This presentation will provide a model that policy makers can apply to enable relocation without jeopardizing community rights. Andina Yudiarti will present the results of analytic study on 3 literary festivals that attempted to create emplacement for forced displacement survivors. It will highlight literary festival effectiveness in echoing forced displacement issue and creating representation of refugees and asylum seekers. Nur Ade Irawan will conclude with exploring how literary community study about forced displacement issues through 3 different perspectives as have been presented by the previous presenters. It is expected that the presentation will spark discussion and provide additional insights to encourage more collaborations between literary communities and forced displacement survivors. Note: If possible, we would like to present in Bahasa Indonesia to enable a deeper literary discussion related to the creative products presented in this panel.

Ghost from the Past

Maria Meidiatami Kira (Semut Merah Kaizen)

Children are the victims who suffer the most when riots that were triggered by political conflicts are happened in their neighborhood. Many are forced to depart from conflict areas and start living in new environments. The echoing voices of children who survived could not outreach the ears of those in power until they were finally omitted. As a matter of fact, children are the nation's successors who must be protected by their country. With a presentation titled Ghosts from the Past, we highlight the ethno-political conflict that occurred in Maluku in 1999–2005. Conflict that started as individual disputes turned into ethnic, inter-religious and separatist group conflicts. As a result of this conflict more than 70,000 people were displaced and more than 29,000 buildings were damaged including 46 mosques, 47 churches, 719 stores, and 38 government buildings. Conflict resolution is not always in line with resolving the problems faced by survivors. Ghosts from the Past is a creative product in the form of a song that sings the silent howls of children who are victims of forced uprooting in this country. Using song writing-performance as a method to explore the issue, we aim to make art a means of speaking out and a medium for advocacy for parties who are victims of forced uprooting. We expected that the creative product can aspire people to understand the feelings of riot survivors so that children do not have to experience similar incidents.

Keywords: forced uprooting, vulnerable groups, survivors, riot victims, songs Presentation format: song writing, singing performance

The Road They Chose

Ike Dian Puspita, Tin Dewidamayanti, Fitriani Ramadhanti Supena, and Sherly Utami Bee (Semut Merah Kaizen)

Urban spatial development carried out for the public interest often takes away people's rights. This happened in the neighborhood where the lead author live in Klaten regency. When the toll road construction project connecting Jogja national airport and Solo national airport has to "eat up" land belonging to local residents which may be their only property. Klaten are witnesses to the deprivation of these rights and the uprooted communities must face the social and economic impacts they never anticipated would come. Perhaps not only in Klaten, other cities may also experience almost the same events and situations when the urban spatial development process is carried out in their areas. The Road They Choose is a creative work in the form of a short documentary film that attempts to capture and present reality that occurs in Klaten, and also to try to record the lack of risk mitigation in spatial planning projects in this city. The aim of this project is to show how risk mitigation and urban planning solutions can be carried out by minimizing losses to affected communities. This documentary is intended to provide a portrait of the reality of displacement that can occur in urban areas, anywhere, in Indonesia, so it can be experienced visually, understood and perhaps even become the starting point for critical thinking about the possibility of using a risk mitigation approach in handling the impacts of urban spatial planning development.

Keywords: Forced uprooting, affected communities, social and economic impacts, documentary
Presentation format: short documentary film

Behind The Sanctuary

Andina Yudiarti, Selvi Diana Paramitha, Lutfiah, and Marina N. Tampubolon (Semut Merah Kaizen)

Forced displacement and literary festival share similarities in the existence of "the will and space". However, one striking difference is that there is a will that moves in the space at the literary festival. It is carnivalistic and dialogical which allows the development of human existence and presents polyphony in diversity; the ultimate need for self-actualization. Whereas in forced displacement, the will and voices are silenced and space is dislocated. Various forms of literary festivals become temporary moments that have a social impact on society. At three literary festivals in Indonesia, with various concepts and different backgrounds, namely Ubud Writers & Readers Festival (UWRF), Makassar International Writers Festival (MIWF), and Jogja Art+Book Fest, the issue of forced displacement was presented through many approaches. Using a qualitative method with multi case study, we aim to investigate: 1) the value and purpose of the organizers that raising topic about forced displacement, 2) the perspective of displaced voices, and 3) how the interconnectedness of the ecosystem is built. The data will be collected through indepth interviews with the literary festival organizers and observation of the product knowledge, then will be analysed with descriptive analysis. From exploring this topic, we expect to gain critical insights into the literary festival's role in raising the existence of "the will and space", emplacement of the inclusive displaced voices, especially about forced displacement, to build ecosystems for resistance of the forced will and space.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 6
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 36

Fail Forward Café: Transforming Setbacks into Success Stories in Managing Migration and Displacement from Slow-Onset Climate Change

Resilience Development Initiative

Facilitator: Eri Krismiyaningsih (Resilience Development Initiative)

Speakers: Dr. Saut Sagala, Dr. Elisabeth Rianawati, and Dr. Indraswari (Resilience Development Initiative)

This interactive workshop is a dynamic platform designed to address the pressing challenges of migration and displacement caused by slow-onset climate change. The workshop blends expert presentations, engaging activities, and collaborative discussions to foster actionable solutions. Participants will explore the connections between slow-onset climate change and migration through a foundational presentation, setting the stage for deeper discussions on the socioeconomic and gender-specific impacts that drive migration decisions and shape the experiences of vulnerable groups.

A highlight of the workshop is the interactive “Bingo Game,” where participants identify common setbacks in managing the impacts of climate change on migration and displacement. Participants will share their insights, providing real-world examples of challenges and lessons learned. This activity not only encourages active participation but also sets the tone for collaborative problem-solving.

Building on this, expert-led presentations will provide valuable perspectives on addressing the socioeconomic drivers of migration, the specific needs of women and vulnerable groups, and the role of adaptive social protection in fostering resilience. Participants will then engage in a facilitated strategy session to collaboratively explore and prioritize solutions for mitigating the impacts of slow-onset climate change. Selected groups will present their findings, sparking further dialogue and knowledge sharing among attendees.

The workshop concludes with a synthesis of key insights, reflections from the speakers, and a Q&A session to address lingering questions. By integrating knowledge sharing, interactive activities, and collaborative brainstorming, this workshop empowers participants to transform setbacks into success stories, equipping them with tools and strategies to address the complex interplay between climate change, migration, and displacement. It is an invaluable opportunity for stakeholders to share experiences, generate innovative solutions, and build resilience in the face of climate-related challenges.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 7
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 37

(Re)ception/Knowledge: Displacement and Belonging 1

IASFM20 New Panel 18

Host and Refugee Communities: Applying Art-based Peacebuilding Approaches

Staci B. Martin (Portland State University)

The purpose of the paper is to discuss a peacebuilding art-based approach to migration. Community-based participatory art-based approach (e.g., Speaking for Ourselves Action Research). This paper will focus on an approach that is just in its initial phase of [mini-peacebooks](#). This paper will talk about how peacebuilding theory can be moved to practice in an arts-based approach and how it impacts communities that are hosting refugees and those who are migrating to their countries. Considering displaced communities' prolonged existence in refugee camps, urban and rural areas, and on water and land, peacebuilding is needed even more so. We need to bring more voices from the Global South, especially refugee and host communities, into the fold so that they can offer their solutions, recommendations, and policies that ultimately impact their own lives.

Girls Rule Art! Exploring Forcibly Displaced Girls' Engagement in Arts-Based Programs

Ashley Cureton (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

Forcibly displaced youths' developmental experiences are compounded by unique stressors related to their migration and adjustment to a new environment, such as learning English and U.S.-based customs and norms and grieving the loss of loved ones due to war and persecution. Arts-based programs can provide space for forcibly displaced youth to process pre-migration and resettlement experiences creatively. Extant research suggests that engagement in arts-based activities can promote positive social and emotional behaviors, empowerment, a sense of belonging and skill-building, and an increase in confidence and interpersonal skills. While these programs can facilitate growth and healing, limited research addresses forcibly displaced girls' perceived benefits of engaging in arts-based programs as they process their displacement, migration, and resettlement journeys.

Drawing on the phenomenological approach, in-depth interviews with 20 high school girls who resettled in an urban city (Chicago, Illinois) in the United States. Phenomenology seeks to understand the lived experiences of people and how they make sense of their experiences concerning the situations and conditions surrounding those experiences" this study explores the forcibly displaced girls' motivation to engage in arts-based activities like dance, drama, and theater. The sample consisted of 20 forcibly displaced self-identified girls who came from four countries: Syria (6), Iraq (6), Myanmar/Burma (3), and Nepal (5). This study draws on the phenomenological hermeneutic (interpretive) approach (IPA), which allowed me to focus on how forcibly displaced girls make sense of the shared phenomenon.

The findings from this study describe forcibly displaced girls' motivation and engagement in arts-based programs within their respective schools and local communities. First, forcibly displaced girls described their engagement in arts-based programs as driven by their desire to explore their artistic

interests and backgrounds, connecting them back to their countries of origin. Second, participants engaged in arts-based programs to connect with other girls who have shared cultural, racial, and gender identities. Third, their involvement in arts-based programs, such as dance, drama, and music, functioned as a safe space for participants to process their pre-migration experiences and to manage feelings of homesickness.

This study highlights how schools and community organizations can tailor arts-based programs to help forcibly displaced girls manage socio-emotional and educational needs. Forcibly displaced girls' increased engagement in art-based activities serves as a vital and useful mechanism for them to address their migration-related needs, demonstrating high levels of resiliency and agency.

Navigating Challenges In Education: An Action Research Approach To Empower Women And Girls In The Ruiru Accelerated Learning Program- Kiambu County, Kenya

Abulogn Okello (Dadaab Response Association)

This study focuses on examining the challenges faced by refugee women and girls in Ruiru, Kenya, as they participate in an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP). The research seeks to address barriers to education, such as language difficulties, cultural norms, and age-related challenges, and evaluate the program's effectiveness in supporting the academic and personal development of these displaced individuals. ALP is designed to provide fast-tracked learning opportunities for individuals who missed formal education or dropped out of school, particularly marginalized groups like refugees. The study aims to assess whether the program creates a supportive learning environment, facilitates access to education, and enables participants to achieve their academic potential despite significant obstacles. The primary research question guiding this study is: What are the challenges facing the Ruiru Accelerated Learning Program for refugee women and girls, and how can the program's promising aspects be mobilized and improved to enhance its effectiveness and sustainability? Using an action research approach, which involves active engagement in the program and continuous analysis of results, the study seeks to explore practical solutions to these challenges. The action research approach is considered the best method for this study because it allows for hands-on learning and adaptation, making it possible to test solutions and implement strategic interventions in real time. The methodology includes focus group discussions with key stakeholders, such as current students, women who are not in the program, and community leaders, to capture diverse perspectives and insights. These discussions will offer diverse perspectives on the challenges and potential improvements to the program. The lead researcher and a female assistant researcher will facilitate these discussions, ensuring a comfortable environment for open dialogue, especially given the gender-sensitive nature of the challenges faced by refugee women. The familiarity and trust built within the Ruiru community will further encourage honest and democratic participation. The anticipated outcome of this research is to provide actionable insights into improving the ALP, ensuring that it can have a lasting and positive impact on the lives of female refugees in Ruiru. While this research acknowledges the promise of the program, it also recognizes that overcoming persisting barriers—such as societal undervaluation of education, language barriers, and limited program capacity—is critical for its long-term success. The study ultimately aims to contribute to the development of a sustainable educational model that not only addresses immediate educational needs but also builds long-term empowerment for refugee women in the community.

How Do Recently Arrived Refugee Youth Make Meaning of Their Experience As Participants of the WUSC Program? An Exploratory Research Study

Hend Alqawasma and Nicole Ives (McGill School of Social Work)

Currently, refugee youth's access to higher education remains low, being estimated at 7% in comparison to 42% when looking at the broader population worldwide. The possibility of enrollment for refugee youth is limited by various conditions, such as political conflicts and financial difficulties, while the problem of refugees and forced migration around the world continues to increase. Resettlement is one of the durable options promoted by the UNHCR; World University Service Canada (WUSC) in partnership with Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship Canada offer seats for college and university education linked with permanent resettlement for refugees, under certain conditions. What is known about challenges to integration and resettlement for refugee students who participate in WUSC is very limited. No research has covered the everyday challenges and difficulties they have faced, enrolled in college and university programs across Canada and, at the same time, learning to integrate and adapt in their new communities. A phenomenological approach was used to explore the lived experience of WUSC students, enrolled in a Canadian University. What does integration mean for WUSC's refugee students, as participants of the program, as new immigrants in their new home in Canada, as visible minorities, and after many years of living in refugee camps? Qualitative data was collected from five unstructured in-depth individual interviews with three refugee university students. Thematic analysis through the lens of critical theory followed to discern students' experiences of integration, resettlement, and educational pathways while enrolled in a Canadian University.

Three themes emerged related to social work practice: 1) "life changing"; 2) social and financial connections and disconnections; 3) and belonging and loneliness. Challenges to integration and successful educational pathways differed based on the time of arrival in Canada. Initially, students' difficulties mostly revolved around adapting to Canadian culture and the educational system. Funding challenges were significant; economic struggles were identified as their main obstacle to integration and successful educational program completion. Feelings of loneliness and language barriers further limited their job opportunities and integration. They also faced discrimination and oppression throughout their experience. Despite this, WUSC students described their participation in WUSC as life changing, associating their arrival to Canada with a sense of security and opportunity for a better life. Connections formed with other fellow WUSC members, and the support received from members of the local committee further contributed to their sense of attachment.

Refugees enrolled in Canadian universities face multiple challenges that impact their resettlement and integration process. Exploring the meaning of WUSC students' experiences help understand what contributes to successful educational pathways, integration, and a sense of belonging. Findings could also shape future research and policymaking to reduce the financial and social tolls of resettlement and contribute to positive integration and educational outcomes.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 8 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 38

**When does Forced Internal Displacement End?
Rethinking durable solutions to displacement in the Philippines**

Romeo Joe Quintero (York University)

In a country such as the Philippines, where ecological disaster, political tensions, and economic hardship are persistent, the causes of displacement are compounded. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) may not only experience displacement induced by fire and floods but including forced relocation to pave ways for aggressive development projects. This is especially true for many IDPs in urban settings, who have been resettled away from valuable coastal areas in the name of disaster mitigation and climate adaptation projects. This is also further complicated by the experiences of IDPs in the southern Philippines who have been repeatedly displaced by armed conflicts between various Islamist separatist groups and the Philippine security forces. However, the experiences of urban IDPs remain largely unrecognized in forced migration and critical urban studies. The scant literature that does exist at the nexus is centred on the lives of IDPs in informal settlements, thereby making it difficult to distinguish them from urban poor communities. This panel examines the spatial, temporal, and relational nature of displacement in the Philippines, by focusing on the cities of Tacloban, Zamboanga, and Zambales to caution scholars, practitioners, and policymakers that resettlement does not always lead to integration.

Keywords: Philippines; Typhoon Haiyan; disaster justice; durable solutions; internally displaced persons

Justice according to whom? Divergent perspectives and provocations on disaster justice in the Philippines

Ginbert Permejo Cuaton (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Lingnan University Hong Kong)

Disaster justice is an emerging research frontier in disaster risk reduction (DRR) praxis. Its central tenets recognise that disasters can expose, magnify, and deepen existing injustices in society which may lead to further injustices. Thus, DRR stakeholders are encouraged to embed & mainstream justice considerations in their policies and programs. Yet, some critical questions remain: How is disaster justice “actually” and “differentially” conceptualised and applied, or not, on the ground? What are its parallels and contrasts, and whose perspectives are advanced or muted in disaster governance? Anchored on a grounded theory approach, I answer these questions using primary data obtained from four focus groups (n= 44) and 51 key informants over a ten-month fieldwork in Eastern Visayas, Philippines- a region devastated by super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013. Using empirical examples on their long-term recovery, I discuss contrasting perspectives and provocations from internally displaced persons, policymakers, government workers, and humanitarian practitioners on what (in)justice entails, and how these divergent ideas are adopted, or not, in disaster governance. Ultimately, this study answers to the call of critical scholars in “rethinking disaster studies” by foregrounding disaster justice based on locally and culturally grounded perspectives of disaster-affected communities themselves.

When does a structure become a home? Queering the durable solutions of return and resettlement to forced internal displacement in the southern Philippines

Romeo Joe Quintero (York University)

A durable solution to displacement advocated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) typically involves return, local integration, or resettlement. However, empirical findings suggest that post-conflict or post-disaster reconstruction projects do not always restore order. Similarly, for many resettled internally displaced persons (IDPs), some remain unintegrated. In other words, displacement is not a temporal status that individuals transition in and out of. In this paper, I examine the case of IDPs in the Philippines affected by the Zamboanga City siege in 2013 to disrupt the conventional understanding of durable solutions to displacement. Drawing on queer theory, I disrupt the unilinear understanding of displacement as departure-journey-arrival. I argue that return and resettlement do not always mean that IDPs have regained or rebuilt their lives, especially if we consider the intersections of gender, race, class, religion, and location of IDPs in Zamboanga City. In contrast to Christian Filipino IDPs who described their experience of displacement as temporary, some Muslim Filipino IDPs with repeated experience of displacement construct an image of home beyond its physical and temporal location.

A Feminist Political Ecology of Sand Quarrying in Zambales, Philippines

Genevieve Minville (York University)

What lies behind the global narrative on "climate migration"? How do development projects like sand extraction contribute to modifying urban settings and thus creating vulnerability to climate change that displaces people? These questions drive the direction of this paper. Sometimes framed as the face of climate change or as a security problem, climate migration has had many labels. These labels, I suggest, can sometimes be misleading, as they blame climate and environmental change rather than the systemic and structurally rooted causes that underpin the phenomena they seek to describe. In this paper, I will explore a preliminary literature review on the discourse on climate migration beyond climate change, emphasizing the structures co-creating and amplifying these changes. I question whether the discourse on climate-induced migration can be synonymous with the narrative on development-induced migration. I ask whether capitalist development can create spaces of vulnerabilities for communities that contribute to environmental and climate change while also amplifying their impacts, including disasters. To examine this thesis, I will use sand extraction in Zambales, Philippines, as a starting point. I will examine how the extraction of sand for development purposes can contribute to changing the ecology and alter urban settings in Zambales and elsewhere as sand travels through time and space, while increasing climate change risks such as landslides in times of typhoons, which put people at higher risk of being displaced, and then being framed under one of the labels of climate migration.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 9 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 39

Digital Interventions and diasporic Identity in Urban Clusters

Marie Godin (University of Leicester)
 Saqib Sheikh (Nanyang Technological University)

Rapid urbanization and global migration trends have led to the emergence of diverse urban clusters characterized by rising populations of refugees forming diaspora communities. This interdisciplinary panel seeks to explore the multifaceted role of digital interventions employed by urban refugees to navigate the twin challenges of displacement and settlement in different host states with a particular focus on the level of the city. Emphasizing the significance of migrant and diaspora identity, the panel will examine how digital tools and platforms are leveraged to enhance social inclusion, bridge geographic divides, construct counter-narratives and foster robust linkages between different localities. Based on diverse local contexts in both the GS and GN, this panel examines various forms of digital interventions, encompassing technologies of power and how migrants increasingly subvert and leverage new technologies to facilitate aspirational place-making. In certain contexts, digital interventions are imposed upon refugee communities as ‘technologies of power,’ aiming to produce new subjectivities. These communities can challenge such enforced alterity through locally and diaspora-sourced resources. Key themes include identity and belonging, social integration and community building, economic empowerment and connectivity, homeland linkages, challenges of digital surveillance, and real-world case studies showcasing innovative approaches and scalable models for digital interventions.

Ontological insecurity and the legacy of genocide: Exploring strategies for digital preservation of collective identity in the Rohingya diaspora

Marie Godin (University of Leicester), Saqib Sheikh (Nanyang Technological University)

This paper will focus on the legacy effects of decades of exclusion and ethnic cleansing faced by the Rohingya people in Myanmar leading to the mass expulsion of over half a million refugees in 2017. In particular, the paper will delve into attempts by the diaspora to mitigate against collective identity threats faced by pressures of assimilation in host societies. Outside of their homeland, the Rohingya remain vulnerable to many humanitarian risks, such as lack of access to basic survival needs, education and financial services. Yet, amidst the continuing humanitarian disaster, one often overlooked threat is the erosion of the collective identity of the Rohingya people as a consequence of genocide, entailing a denial of their basic recognition as a people to their ancestral and cultural heritage linking them to their homeland. The paper will explore case studies and interviews of activists of the Rohingya diaspora who are utilizing technological means to restore and preserve aspects of the Rohingya identity which they view as in danger of cultural loss. Such efforts include the creation of a digital archive of valuable documents relating to Rohingya history as well as digital standardization of the Rohingya language. The strategies employed by these grassroots actors shall be seen within a wider lens of ontological security addressing threats to ethnic and communal identity that are frequently undermentioned in these discussions.

Refugees' socio-digital futures in protracted displacement settings in Kenya

Marie Godin (University of Leicester), Fardosa Ahmed Salah (Refugee Led Research)

This paper examines the nexus between refugee livelihoods, new technologies, and refugees' aspirations in Kenya, in particular in the city of Nairobi. It seeks to better understand the existence, potential, and pitfalls of so-called 'digital livelihoods' for refugees. Through a multi-sited ethnographic approach, it will highlight who gets excluded or included in the 'gig economy'. It will explore how refugees' socio-digital futures are being imagined from above ('Big futures') as well as how refugees themselves harness technological innovation to imagine and create new solidarities, socialities, and new forms of refugee governance ('little futures'). It aims to provide a better understanding of the existence, potential, and pitfalls of so-called 'digital livelihoods' for refugees and, in particular, of who gets excluded and included from the digital economy based on their gender, nationality, age, sexual orientation, location, and/or any other social signifiers that could lead to discrimination.

What remains of the pandemic: Assemblages of digital tech, biopolitics, and refugee alterity in Malaysia's 'new normal'

Elliott Prasse-Freeman (National University of Singapore)

With the case of Rohingya refugees in Malaysia, this paper critically examines the constructions of alterity and biopolitics inscribed into assemblages of governing technologies, like the compulsory MySejahtera contact tracing app during the COVID-19 pandemic, and their role in isolating such refugee groups from the 'mainstream' population in an asylum state. Drawing on our analysis of interviews with Rohingya refugees, government statements, and documentation materials of the MySejahtera app, we argue that the socio-technical imaginary underpinning MySejahtera constructs its intervention target in epidemiological terms as a population under viral threat, spatially (co-)present within Malaysia's borders. However, the (pre-pandemic) construction of refugees as a potentially dangerous, more contagious 'other' is equally inscribed in both the contact tracing app and complementing public health measures (like the enhanced movement restriction zones that targeted areas with large refugee populations). We thus propose to understand apps like MySejahtera as technologies of power that co-produce new subjectivities of populations under viral threat, and, simultaneously, re-enact and enforce alterity for those not granted the 'privilege' of digital 'participatory surveillance'.

Aspirational place-making and digital practices of refugees in the Netherlands

Amanda Alencar (Erasmus University), Camila Sarria Sanz and Jaber Mawazini

While much has been written about the experience of human displacement and the trauma of exile, our understanding of how refugees (re)build a sense of place is underemphasized. The literature on refugee integration has mainly focused on the outcomes of integration policies as well as on the perspectives of host societies regarding what is expected of refugees in the integration process. In this article, we propose the notion of aspirational place-making to analyze the agency of refugees in negotiations of possible futures and aspirational places in the face of structural challenges of integration within the host community. We argue that refugees turn to digital practices to conceive aspirational places and create their own pathways to belong. The outcomes presented in this study derived from 15 in-depth interviews conducted among newcomers with a refugee background living in the Netherlands. In this study, aspirational place making is outlined into three themed categories of digital practices among refugees: (1) digital learning, (2) digital social participation, and (3) digital

social support. The empirical findings provide a new understanding of the different strategies refugees employ to construct plans for their lives that can potentially enable them to fulfill aspirations in the host country.

Keywords: Aspirations, place-making, digital practices, refugee integration, agency.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 13.30–15.00 WIB
Venue : Room 10 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 4, Panel 40

Contesting the Meanings and Uses of the Concept of ‘Forced Migration’

Natalia Cintra (University of Southampton)

Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli (University of Sheffield)

Refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced people, development-induced displacement, climate-related migration, amongst others, are several of the legal, political and/or administrative categories incorporated by the broader concept of ‘forced migration’. This has, as a result, translated into further development of research and analysis on forced migration, its causes and consequences, and how it helps explain contemporary society in the fields of Refugee studies and Forced Migration Studies. Specifically, emerging scholarship on these fields have since studied the many categories and dynamics involving the specificities and nature of ‘forced migration’, as well as its limits. Not only has this field of studies long discussed the limits of the refugee concept, and the problems of the refugee-migrant binary, but more recently, it has also started to question the historical and colonial origins of some of these categories, how they have historically excluded some people, how forced displacement and forced migration are euphemisms for more historically complex processes of uprooting, deracination, exile, exodus, and banishment and, finally, how the political uses of asylum may place the very concept of asylum under threat of disappearance. Conceiving of the existing forced migration categories and categorisations’ practices as problematic, all papers in this panel uncover normative, empirical, and/or historical analysis from different regions, all of which in the Global South, that demonstrate their limitations, neocolonial legacies, racial biases, and political uses, while at the same time moving the debate forward by asking how to frame ‘long term solutions’ (if this is at all possible) in a context where such categories are no longer in use.

Reflecting on three parallel cases in Mexico, South Africa and and Portugal, Miriam Arriaga illustrates how existing forced migration theories and categories fail to fully engage with the lived realities of LGBTQI+ forced migrants, while Natalia Cintra demonstrates that racializing the debate around forced migration enlightens its very intrinsic conceptual limitations. Moreover, Patrícia Martuscelli and Natalia Cintra demonstrate how even expanded definitions of asylum are politically used; and finally, Nicholas Maple asks whether by pushing for a move away from policy and legal categories of forced migration, are we also moving further away from long-term solutions to displacement, something which, relatedly, Marcia Vera specifically analyses in the Latin American case.

Drawing from these debates, this panel proposes to engage with the authors from different disciplines and parts of the world in a discussion that contributes to the development of the field of studies the IASFM is embedded in, i.e. forced migration, and, as a result, to key themes discussed in the upcoming IASFM conference, particularly within the Global Agenda for International Migration.

We are not theory! Unsettling categories of displacement with LGBTQI+ forced migrants

Miriam Adelina Ocadiz Arriaga (*Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*)

In communities that have endured colonialism and apartheid, there is an urge to deconstruct vocabularies of forced migration rooted in dispossession, exploitation, and segregation. Ndlovu Gatsheni (2018) argues that there is a ‘crisis of ideas’ in approaching forced migration in postcolonial contexts because notions of identity, belonging, borders and citizenship remain largely unquestioned

and unchallenged, despite their role in reproducing coloniality. These critiques are particularly relevant as contemporary forms of forced migration continue to change and expand, including unprecedented causes of forced displacement such as those caused by discrimination and persecution on the grounds of gender identities and sexual orientations. In response, this study focused on the narratives of LGBTQI+ forced migrants that demand their right for self-definition, problematising theories and categories that fail to fully engage with their lived realities. This study approached three grassroots LGBTQI+ forced migrant collectives: Afrontosas (Portugal), Afronteras (Mexico), and the Fruit Basket (South Africa). The aim is to acknowledge the way these collectives reflect on their migration journeys entangled in gender and sexuality, class, race and nationality. In their pursue for safe grounds were to thrive, I argue that LGBTQI+ collectives cultivate narratives and practices that unsettle knowledge systems on forced migration. As their very existence is in many ways elusive to labels and categories, LGBTQI+ collectives uphold embodied knowledge on how to contest, expand and even reject hegemonic theories on forced migration, which could support decolonial efforts to dismantle unjust power structures.

Recognising Refugees in Brazil: The Political Use of the `Severe and Generalised Violation of Human Rights` Recognition Criterion

Dr. Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli (University of Sheffield), Dr. Natalia Cintra (University of Southampton)

Severe and generalised violations of human rights (SGVHR) have been discussed in International Relations (IR) and International Law (IL). In Refugee Studies, it is present in the 1984 Cartagena Declaration's refugee conception, which expanded the 1951 Geneva Convention's asylum definition. SGVHR is recognized as an important contribution to the protection of forcibly displaced people in Latin America. While many Latin American countries applied Cartagena's refugee concept in their own national asylum frameworks, the Cartagena Declaration did not explain what SGVHR specifically meant, what situations it comprises, nor how it should be applied. Our paper draws from the literature on SGVHR in IR and IL to analyse the Brazilian uses of SGVHR, and the definitional criteria applied to recognise refugees under the SGVHR grounds. Brazil was the first country in Latin America to incorporate SGVHR in its Asylum Law (9474/1997) and has widely used it, especially in the Venezuelan migration. We argue that Brazil's employment of the SGVHR criterion has been used to meet the political interests of the country's different governments. In order to assess this, we conducted a critical discourse analysis of the minutes from official meetings of the Brazilian National Committee of Refugees (CONARE), the institution responsible for recognising refugees in Brazil. These minutes are useful because CONARE members discuss asylum cases, public policies for refugees and specific country of origin situations allowing us to understand how SGVHR is applied in asylum decision-making. Our findings not only contribute to showing the political uses of the SGVHR concept, but of refugee recognition itself, and demonstrates that an expanded refugee definition, although broadening the grounds for international protection, does not prevent states from strategically protecting and selecting some refugees in detriment of others.

Forced Migration Categories, Temporality, and Citizenship in Southern Africa

Dr Nicholas Maple (Refugee Law Initiative, University of London)

This paper investigates the 'forgotten' role citizenship plays in on-going debates over the inherent exclusion that stem from forced migration categories. It asks whether by pushing for a move away from (albeit problematic) policy and legal categories, are we also moving further away from long term solutions to displacement?

A great deal has been written about the limited value of the refugee label in Southern Africa, with more and more forced migrants excluded from ever shrinking asylum spaces. This has made academics question the value of forced migration categories, international protection, and the global refugee regime. Instead, contemporary research is often more interested in how displaced persons (regardless of any policy or legal category) find their own ways to settle and engage with local communities and labour markets.

Yet, this academic move away from policy and legal categories leaves questions around the long term status of displaced persons who cross international borders. Indeed, many migrants in Southern Africa simply remain as ‘temporary guests’ in neighbouring countries perpetually. It also remains unclear how shifting or broadening displaced categories could engage with this issue. As a response, the paper explores the role citizenship could play as a solution to long-term temporality. The (re)gaining of citizenship – through a recalibration of our understanding of durable solutions – while not a panacea to all protection issues or even displacement, nonetheless, could offer a sense of mooring; whereby citizenship gives displaced persons a sense of attachment or permanence to a location while also allowing for greater mobility.

Imaginaries of refugee protection: how the notion of ‘durable solutions’ is changing in Latin America.

Dr Marcia Vera Espinoza (Queen Margaret University)

Latin America has been long portrayed as a progressive region in terms of its legal framework to refugee protection. However, in the last decade several changes have taken place which have arguably ‘weaken’ refugee protection in the region (Zapata et al., 2023). These changes relate both to the ‘form’ of protection, which include the proliferation of complementary and humanitarian pathways, and the ‘practice’ of protection, related to the misimplementation of the legal framework or changes to it, across several countries of the region. Changes to both the form and practice of protection has impacted not only the safe pathways people can use to seek protection, but also the rights and regulatory status people can access in the host countries. These changes also affect what countries of the region understand by ‘durable solutions’ for refugee population. This paper reviews how the changes in the form and practice of refugee protection in Latin America has also shaped the imaginaries of what durable solutions are in the context of forced migration in the region. Drawing from data collected across different projects conducted in the last 10 years, and in the context of Cartagena +40, the paper reviews how these imaginaries of protection have shifted and reflects on the impacts it may have in the next decade.

A Racialised Critique of the Concept of Forced Migration

Dr Natalia Cintra (University of Southampton)

Although it is not new amongst ‘forced migration scholars’ to critically engage with and study the limits of the many categories incorporated within the more ample definition of ‘forced migration’, the conceptualisation of ‘forced migration’ itself is however not as sufficiently addressed or critiqued in existing literature. This paper aims to address this gap in critical literature of ‘forced migration’ by providing a conceptual critique of the fundamental limits of the concept of forced migration when racializing this conceptual debate. In order to do that, it mainly engages with decolonial and afropessimistic theories, Aurora Vergara Figueroa’s critique of the field, and Tendayi Achiume’s demonstration of the historical connections that underpin people’s movements between former colonies and metropolises. I specifically argue that centring on ‘race’ as a lens to read mobility

dynamics opens up avenues to see the inherent limitations of the concept of forced migration, the racialised effects of such limitations, and new frameworks that allow such failures to be overcome. I do so by drawing on three displacement phenomena that help to illustrate the theoretical critique I aim to develop: the movement of West and Central Africans to Brazil, the displacement of Haitians in Latin America, and the protracted mobility of indigenous Venezuelans, the Warao, both within and beyond their own country.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB

Venue : Room 1

Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 41

N/A

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB
Venue : Room 2
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 42

(Re)conception: Women in Displacement

IASFM20 New Panel 13

How Semi Permeable facilitate transnational perpetration of structural, symbolic and interpersonal sexual and gender based violence

Gemma Tarpey-Brown (University of Melbourne)

My oral presentation will use empirical data to explore forced migrant women's transnational experiences of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). I will argue that dynamic forms of violence travel with women across international borders, and persist throughout different temporal and geographic stages of forced migration. The data was collected as part of the SEREDA project, a multi-country study investigating the nature and extent of SGBV perpetrated against forced migrants. SGBV is perpetrated across a range of urban settings during forced migration. These settings may include conflict, flight, encampment, temporary refuge, and long-term settlement. Forced migrant women experience increased risk of SGBV across these settings and we know SGBV has significant impacts on forced migrant women's mental and physical health outcomes. This presentation will draw on 16 qualitative interviews conducted with Arabic speaking forced migrant women from South West Asia and Northern Africa. All the participants lived in an urbanised environment in the city of Melbourne, Australia which is where the interviews were conducted. I used reflexive thematic analysis informed by the theory of transnational social fields to examine how semi-permeable borders facilitate the perpetration of structural, symbolic and interpersonal SGBV, I generated four key themes from the data which focused on how participants experienced interpersonal SGBV as a dynamic phenomenon that travelled with women as they sought safety from war and conflict. SGBV was perpetrated by a range of different actors across a diverse range of geographical settings, including during long term settlement in Australia. Structural and symbolic violence compounded participants' experiences of interpersonal violence, creating additional barriers to accessing formal support services. My research found that, despite increasing securitisation, international borders remain permeable to multiple forms of structural, symbolic and interpersonal SGBV. The findings highlight the urgent need to build the capacity of international migration support organisations working with forced migrant women to effectively recognise, respond to, and prevent SGBV which occurs across, despite, and sometimes because of, international borders. We must move toward developing transnational frameworks for the prevention of SGBV that takes into account the multiple ways in which SGBV is perpetrated across international borders and by extension across different national jurisdictions.

"I feel emotionally, physically, very displaced": mapping women's forced return migration after domestic violence

Vidya Ramachandran (University of Oxford)

This paper outlines an emergent pattern of forced return migration: that of migrant women who return to their countries of nationality in the aftermath of domestic violence. Existing research on (forced) return migration has largely focused on state practices such as deportation or repatriation. Through empirical inquiry, this paper delineates messier forms of coercion that are shaped by gender and family norms on the one hand, and state power on the other.

The paper is drawn from a larger doctoral study of women’s (forced) return migration to India from the UK and USA. Over 12 months, I conducted life–history interviews and participant observation with 43 women returnees in southern India and 7 members of their families. I also conducted interviews and observations with 25 police officers, domestic violence services and lawyers across the three countries. The paper outlines women’s diverse trajectories of return migration, which showcase dynamics of both agency and coercion. Some women ostensibly ‘escape’ violent marriages by returning to India, while others are deceived into returning by spouses who sponsor their visas. Still others return when, as migrants with restricted rights, they struggle to forge dignified lives following violence. I also explore women’s post–return experiences. Some women become vulnerable to further violence, stigma or alienation from their families and communities. Others may turn to under–resourced state or community justice mechanisms, or receive little psychosocial support. Some women remigrate, but most cannot: their host–states’ immigration policies shut them out. Finding work is a struggle: many women didn’t have the right to work abroad, or were prevented from working by their spouses. Most have been out of work for several years, and are dependent on their families.

By describing these women’s experiences, I argue that they constitute a type of ‘forced migration’. I highlight that their return trajectories are largely set in motion by structural factors in migrants’ host–states – namely, dependent visa regimes that enhance women’s vulnerability to domestic abuse, that restrict their entitlements, and that allow sponsoring spouses control over their rights to residence – and by norms around gender and family that shape women’s experiences of domestic abuse. I further emphasise the relevance of the affective. On returning to India, these women *feel* a sense of displacement: both due to their geographical relocation, and their sense of disconnect from their spouses, families and communities. Conceptualising these return experiences as ‘forced migration’ corroborates their relevance to researchers in the field. These women’s narratives enrich our understanding of the many ways in which mobility can be coerced, and of affective experiences of displacement.

Intergenerational memory: lived experiences of Kashmiri Pandit women

Parul Oberoi (Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee)

The forced migration of Kashmiri Pandit women due to insurgency in Kashmir valley during late 1980s and early 1990s is significant yet underexplored area of research under the rubric of South Asian studies (Show, Datta) After the forced mass migration in 1990s the Kashmiri Pandit diaspora resettled in various states of India and Abroad. One of the key locations of this diaspora is in the south of Jammu and Kashmir in Jagti migrant colony where more than 50,000 Kashmiri Pandits reside currently. This study aims to analyze the lived experiences of these internally displaced women residing in Jagti migrant colony using feminist lens and incorporating the concept of memory to understand the gendered narratives of displacement. The research employs ethnographic methodologies of participant observation and in depth interviews to capture the lived experiences of Kashmiri Pandit women who were uprooted from their homeland.

The concept of memory is central to this analysis which serves as a tool to illustrate the layered and often silenced narratives of these women. Memory is not only personal recollection but a collective concept which shapes and modifies identities and histories (Halbwach, Gedi, Nora). For Kashmiri Pandit women memory intertwines with trauma which shaped their past, present and future in the wake of ending up homeless. It also highlights their struggles, survival and adaptation strategies in the foreign land of the same country. The Feminist lens is crucial in unpacking the gendered aspect of the forced migration within Kashmiri Pandit diaspora. The struggles of women are different from men and the classifications of class, caste and ethnicity in the broader category of Kashmiri Pandit

women further augment the argument. By focusing on women's voices, this study challenges the dominant patriarchal narratives that often marginalize or homogenize female experiences.

Ethnographic methodologies enabled a deep understanding of the life-world of Kashmiri Pandit women which was shaped by the chaotic assemblage of the exodus. In-depth interviews and participant observation allowed deep conversations with the respondents which resulted in rich and nuanced data. The conversation with the three different generations of Kashmiri Pandit women highlighted the intergenerational transmission of memory and ways in which these memories are preserved, altered and articulated. Participant observation within Kashmiri Pandit communities in diaspora settings such as Jagti Migrant colony in Jammu provides a contextual understanding of how these memories are enacted in everyday life and community practices. The memory as a process was also lived with our respondent when we went on a field trip to Kheer Bhawani temple in Kashmir.

One of the key findings of this research is the dual role of memory. Although it evokes the emotion of pain and trauma but furthermore it also brings back the pleasant memories of motherland. The younger generations of the Kashmiri Pandit women who were searching their identity found them in the memories of the older generation. The various characteristics of Kashmiri Pandits are passed on from one generation to another which reaffirms their identity of being a Kashmiri Pandit even after they had been out of Kashmir for more than thirty years. The memories came flooding back to my respondents on their visit to their local deity in Kashmir. This place brought back the happy memories but with the condition of reliving it occasionally instead of being a daily affair back in 1970s and 1980s. These visits also assert the identity of younger generation who rekindle with their lost folks scattered all over India as well as abroad and comprehend the tense relationship with host community of Kashmiri Muslims and try to discover the puzzled picture of their home and identity linked to their home.

In conclusion, this research contributes to the broader discourse on forced migration and gender by highlighting the specific experiences of Kashmiri Pandit women. It underscores the importance of memory in understanding the complexities of displacement and the role of ethnographic methodologies in capturing the depth of these experiences. Through a feminist lens, the study amplifies the voices of women, offering a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of their plight and resilience in the face of forced migration.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB

Venue : Room 3

Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 43

(Re)ception: Displacement and Belonging 2

IASFM20 New Panel 14

Between Bombs and Belonging: Reimagining Home for Queer Internally Displaced Persons from South Lebanon

Jasmin Lilian Diab (Lebanese American University)

This paper sheds light on the often-overlooked intersectionality of armed conflict, displacement, and sexual identity, with a focus on the experiences of internally displaced LGBTIQ+ individuals from South Lebanon amidst the ongoing armed conflict between Israel and the armed group Hezbollah. Employing a qualitative research approach, the study conducted 15 in-depth interviews with members of the displaced LGBTIQ+ community to capture the nuances of their lived experiences. Through thematic and narrative analysis, the research aims to uncover the multifaceted challenges faced by LGBTIQ+ individuals who have been internally displaced due to the protracted conflict. The findings aim to highlight the intricate interplay between the external conflict dynamics and the internal struggles of sexual and gender minorities navigating displacement. Themes such as resilience, identity negotiation, discrimination, and community building emerge from the narratives, providing a rich and textured understanding of the intricate fabric of their lives. The paper not only contributes to the growing body of literature on conflict-induced displacement but also foregrounds the unique challenges and coping mechanisms employed by LGBTIQ+ individuals in the face of adversity. By amplifying the voices of those often silenced, this research seeks to inform policies and interventions that are more inclusive and responsive to the specific needs of internally displaced LGBTIQ+ populations in conflict settings, fostering a deeper understanding of the complexities inherent in their journeys of survival, resilience, and identity reconstruction.

The role of culturally important foods in Australian regional resettlement

Lauren Carpenter, Karen Block, Eliza Crosbie, Natascha Klocker

Food plays a fundamental role in culture and identity, in addition to the direct links with physical and mental health and wellbeing. Food security is an important contributor to health and wellbeing and is defined as the ability of everyone to have physical and economic access to safe and nutritious foods that meet their dietary needs and preferences. For people with a refugee background, resettlement in a new country is often a stressful time and difficulties accessing familiar and culturally important foods can lead to contribute to these feelings of high stress. The inability to access culturally important foods can also contribute to food insecurity, and this may be compounded by the area in which a person is resettled, with people living in regional and rural Australia at higher risk of food insecurity compared to their urban counterparts. The aim of the current paper is to explore the role that culturally important foods play in resettlement in regional Australia, for people with a refugee background.

Settling Well in Regional Australia is a longitudinal study across six regional settlement sites in Australia. Using mixed methods, and employing community researchers with lived experience as refugees, the project aims to understand the experiences of people with refugee backgrounds who live in regional towns and the impact on regional settlement communities. In depth interviews with 180 people with a refugee background were conducted between March and December 2023, and

quantitative data were collected from approximately 600 people with a refugee background via an online survey from between late 2023 and mid-2024.

Access to cultural foods was identified as an important theme in both the interviews and survey data. Nearly 78% of survey respondents reported that having access to foods and shops from their culture was a very important influence on where they chose to live, however only 23% of people reported being very satisfied with this factor in the regional area where they currently lived. In interviews, many people expressed that one of the benefits of living in a regional area was having access to a garden, or community farming land, on which they were able to grow their own cultural foods. More than 90% of survey participants who reported growing their own food in Australia, reported doing so to eat themselves, whilst 39% reported sharing it with their local cultural community. Only 30% who reported growing food in their home country, were also doing this in Australia however. Given the Australian government's desire to have a proportion of humanitarian entrants resettle long term in regional Australia, facilitating access to culturally important foods through a range of policies, including land access, is likely to assist in achieving this aim.

Queer Placemaking: Spatial Quotidian Practices of Hope, Joy, and Care among Filipino IDPs in Evacuation Camps

Romeo Joe Quintero (York University)

Using data generated from semi-structured interviews with internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the southern Philippines, I put forth a notion of queer placemaking to nuance the dominant understanding of camps as sites of spatiotemporal confinement and control. Queer placemaking refers to the ways in which Filipino IDP women and gender diverse individuals affected by the Zamboanga City siege in 2013, carved out spaces within evacuation camps to curtail their dismal living conditions through collective practices of hope, joy, and care. Their queer placemaking practices can be drawn along the lines of class, ethnic, and religious identities. Poor Muslim Filipino IDPs who are stereotyped as troublesome in a long-Christianized society and were regarded as burdensome, formed informal support systems to meet their daily needs for sustenance, shelter, and sanitation. Meanwhile, working-class Christian Filipino IDPs who were considered as guests and provided with ample supplies of food, shelter, and sanitation, formed daily routines to regain a semblance normalcy. Highlighting the queer placemaking practices of IDP women and gender diverse individuals is not intended to overly celebrate their creative capacity to remake the structure of evacuation camps, but rather to offer capacious understanding of camps as sites of hope, joy, and care, as much as they are sites of confinement and control.

Forced displacement in the south-west of Colombia: from the countryside to the city, the shantytowns, the case of Villa Florida

Laura Maria Lopera Realpe (Université de Montréal)

The forced displacement, a consequence of the Colombian armed conflict, has generated a big human mobility outside the country, but above all within it, from rural to urban areas, modifying the spatial configuration of cities and generating new and different social dynamics. This mobility and the concentration of forced displaced people in the cities have led to the creation of what is called "invasiones" (in Spanish) shantytowns on the outskirts of cities or even within them. These "invasiones" are seen as marginal areas bordered by invisible frontiers, almost impossible to cross and penetrate for those who don't live there, due to high crime rates, the incursion of drug trafficking groups, and illegal armed groups, but also to their own security system. These are places where violence, poverty and marginalization are constant phenomena. Here, we present the shantytowns of the city of

Popayan, in the south-west of Colombia, especially the case of Villa Florida, where we can observe the spatial organization of this place and the different stages of what happens after the forced displacement has occurred. Villa Florida is home to people who arrived 22 years ago, passing through those who arrived 10 years ago, 2 years ago, and the most recent ones a few months ago. Here, it shows what life is like after they moved from the rural areas to the city, and how these people have to adapt to their new surroundings. Here the internally displaced population (IDPs) show their lifestyle, but at the same time the way they organize themselves, the struggles they develop for the right to the city, to have a dignified housing, against expulsions and to be made visible within the marginality of the cities. This phenomenon is made invisible because when displaced people arrive in the city, they are absorbed by the city's own problems, which contributes to increasing the circles of poverty in the cities. Anthropology has helped me to understand how people adapt to their new situations, including violence, and look for alternative ways of life that lead them to return to their places of origin and/or start a new life and try to recover what they had before the victimizing events or to look for new places to stay. This topic is part of a broader doctoral research, where the field work was conducted during 2023 and part of 2024 in shantytowns in the municipality of Popayan, as well as in other municipalities in the southwest of Colombia; here an approach to the displaced population was made through direct and participant observation, through semi-structured interviews, and documentary collection, video and photographic recordings.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB
Venue : Room 4
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 44

Knowledge: Livelihood and Entrepreneurship

IASFM20 New Panel 15

Facilitating access to self-employment of urban refugees in Niger through social and financial education

Mariama Mary Fall (Aflatoun International)

Education remains one of the most underfunded sectors during emergencies and displacement, often requiring significant financial, infrastructural, and legal resources. For refugees, maintaining continuous education is frequently prohibitively expensive, and even when possible, many lose years of schooling due to the inability to prove previous academic achievements. In West and Central Africa, the lack of documentation hinders refugees' access to employment, despite regulations mandating equal treatment and employment access for refugees akin to that of citizens. However, many developing countries in Africa already have high levels of unemployment. Moreover, French-speaking countries in this region often receive less attention and fewer resources from international youth empowerment initiatives and research, compared to their English-speaking counterparts, potentially due to the predominance of English-language publications.

Our project aims to enhance the capacity of urban refugees by providing training in employability, social, and financial education skills. The targeted beneficiaries are urban refugees who have already attained higher education qualifications through UNHCR scholarships. Given the high levels of unemployment in Niger and the stigma attached to refugee status, finding employment is particularly challenging for this population. Building on their existing academic foundation, our project seeks to further empower these refugees by equipping them with essential skills through targeted training programs. Additionally, the training's online communication component will improve their digital etiquette and proficiency with online navigation and meeting tools.

The first step will be a pilot phase, followed by a comprehensive 12-week training course, which we aim to have certified by UNHCR, and a partner university. To assess the impact of the training, we will implement a mixed-methods evaluation strategy comprising pre and post-training surveys, semi-structured interviews, and focus groups with participants, facilitators, and education officers from UNHCR and the partner university. Participants will also maintain logbooks to document their experiences and progress throughout the training. This multifaceted approach will provide a robust evaluation of the training's effectiveness and inform future initiatives aimed at enhancing refugee employability and integration.

The expected outcomes of this initiative are multifaceted: urban refugees will be empowered to generate income, participate in or establish social or financial enterprises, and make sound financial decisions. Additionally, they will be equipped to teach social and financial education to younger displaced individuals in Niger, thereby extending the program's impact.

This training program integrates accelerated learning and distance education to foster social and financial skills, employability, and self-employment or enterprise creation. The anticipated positive outcomes include improved livelihoods for urban displaced individuals and their communities, contributing to policy change in the region. Empowering urban refugees through this initiative is expected to significantly enhance their daily lives and future financial decisions and behaviors. A

comprehensive knowledge-mobilization plan will ensure effective dissemination of the research findings, facilitating broader application and policy influence.

Keywords: Urban refugees, employability, social and financial education, higher education, digital skills, policy change, empowerment, displacement, refugee integration, youth empowerment, accelerated learning, distance education.

Strategies to Enhance Livelihoods of Displaced Communities: The Case of Sambas Madurese, West Kalimantan

Wenty Marina Minza, F. A. Nurdiyanto, and Kristoforus Lintang Mahadewa (Universitas Gadjah Mada)

In response to the 1999 Sambas Conflict in West Kalimantan, all Sambas Madurese were forced to migrate out of Sambas. The conflict was believed to be caused by multiple negative experiences and conflicts involving the Malay, Dayak, and Madurese. This permanent displacement has perpetuated their infamous reputation and effectively alienated them from even Madurese, who is living in Kalimantan and afraid that their presence will bring conflict. Their marginalized status and negative reputation have created additional barriers to overcoming poverty, increasing livelihood for the younger generation, and potential empowerment towards their community. Our research reveals that the Sambas Madurese have also internalized prejudice against them in the form of “meta-beliefs” (Beliefs we believe the out-group has on us) and multiple integration efforts to amend their strained relationships with the locals. We propose that an ethnography centred approach will effectively showcase their current livelihoods and their daily challenges. A purposive sampling is deemed appropriate to select potential candidates to participate in this action research. Data collected through interviews, fieldnotes, photos, and participatory observation will be analyzed using thematic analysis. Reflecting on the current conditions faced by the Sambas Madurese, our current research aims to empower and incorporate perspectives from the Sambas Madurese community to share their experience of being a Sambas Madurese towards potential stakeholders. By highlighting their daily life and challenges, we aim to promote social cohesion and bridge the gap that local communities have built against the Sambas Madurese. This study hopes to contribute towards the literature on forcibly migrated communities, especially social cohesion among local and migrated communities. Ultimately, we hope to support a sustainable future and increased livelihood for the Sambas Madurese.

Our fieldwork also revealed the everyday lives of Sambas Madurese living in Bunga Sari, the hamlet pseudonym. Their daily activities are often shadowed by existing stereotypes and meta beliefs that deny them acknowledgement from the local community. Through observation, conversations, and involvement in the daily Sambas Madurese life, we note poor infrastructure and strained relations with the local community that was originally expected by the government to support them. As a result of this strained group relationship, the Sambas Madurese are rarely employed by the local communities to work, for example shopkeepers or building and plantation labor. The negative treatment received by the Sambas Madurese from the local communities eventually form meta-beliefs (beliefs on the beliefs others hold) that are internalized and eventually affect their daily life interactions.

Keywords: Sambas Madurese, forced displacement, meta-beliefs, integration

From Camp to Food Hub: the Restaurant Industry in Tibetan colony in North Delhi and Refugee Economy

Seollan Pyeon (Nara University)

This paper aims to discuss the relationship between refugee entrepreneurship and city-making by considering refugees as actors in the creation of cities. Specifically, the research analyses the situation of Tibetan-owned cafés and restaurants thriving in Tibetan Colony in Delhi, India, as a case study. I discuss the historical background and relationship with Delhi's policies, as well as the background of this popular spot, especially among young people in India. The data in this study come from ethnographic fieldwork conducted intermittently since 2010. After China occupied the Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, in 1951, the Dalai Lama sought asylum in India in 1959, resulting in about 80,000 Tibetans successively crossing the border and taking refuge in India. Currently, around 100,000 Tibetan refugees are reported to be living in India. Tibetan refugee settlements have been established across India, and Delhi is one of them, particularly in a place called Majnu-ka-tilla (MT). MT was established in the early 1960s as a settlement for Tibetan refugees displaced from Tibet and is now the leading Tibetan refugee settlement in Delhi. It is estimated that around 2,500 Tibetans live in MT, and apart from students and unemployed people, they are mainly engaged in the restaurant industry selling Tibetan and Chinese food, accommodation, and wholesale trade of clothes and other products. Tibetan Buddhist temples are also located in the area, which was often known as 'Little Tibet' as a place to experience Tibetan culture. However, in addition to this, it is now also known as a 'cheap, cool and fashionable' place among young people in India, with cafés and restaurants selling coffee and desserts in the background. Young people's popularity is concentrated in cafés and eateries where they eat and drink, with MT's most popular Ama Café always fully booked. In response to these trends, the 'Redevelopment of Dilli Food Hubs' was declared in Delhi in July 2022. This is a plan by the Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi in collaboration with the Food Safety Department to develop food hubs across Delhi. The main objective of the scheme is to create employment and widen the range of business opportunities in Delhi, and MTs have been selected for the first phase of the scheme. Although MT was once set up as a refugee camp, it now functions as a city, more than 60 years later. This paper sees the refugee camp as a city rather than a temporary shelter and describes how MT evolves through the economic activities and entrepreneurship of Tibetan refugees and their relationship with Indian youth culture and Indian policy.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB
Venue : Room 5
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 45

(Re)conception/Knowledge: Urban Displacement 3

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“Mud Feet”: Displacement and Prejudice After Environmental Disaster in Brazil

Luciana Dias (Advocacia-Geral da União – Procuradoria Geral Federal)

This oral presentation holds a case study about internally displaced persons generated by what is considered the greatest socio-environmental disaster in Brazilian history, and the largest in the world involving tailings dams: the rupture of the Fundão dam. The Fundão dam is located in the sub-district of Bento Rodrigues. In the afternoon of November 5, 2015, the dam failed. This subject is important because there is a need to understand the real consequences of the environmental accident from multiple angles – not only from an environmental point of view, but also from a human rights perspective regarding those affected by the disaster. As such, this presentation aims to analyze the rupture of the ore tailings dam from the perspective of the various homeless and displaced people resulting from the tragedy.

Under the methodology of a case study, the presentation uses qualitative data to focus on the internally displaced persons generated by the rupture of the Fundão dam. Currently, the internally displaced persons of this disaster experience prejudice and mistrust within their protracted displacement situation, since they are discriminated against as if they were the cause of the tragedy that hit the municipality, while their children are called "mud feet" in school.

Today, almost ten years after the dam rupture, there is still no reason to celebrate. The displaced population has not yet been definitively relocated or compensated. At least 58 people from Bento Rodrigues alone died before seeing their new homes, according to reports from those affected. In addition, Brazilian internal regulation is still incipient when dealing with internal displacements and involuntary resettlements, since the legislative acts are merely punctual and casuistic, responding to specific disasters and lawsuits as they occur in a disjointed and ad-hoc manner.

Given the historical lack of internal normative requirements regarding internally displaced persons in Brazil, the populations that had their districts decimated by the rupture of the dam may not acquire much from the company or even state entities. There is a lack of clear answers regarding compensation of properties of the internally displaced. This situation has been worsened by the current climate crisis, which has been deepening with extreme events all around the country. This legal situation, however, might experience some change, especially regarding those displaced by dam activities in the coming years. The President of the Republic sanctioned, with vetoes, on December 15, 2023, Law No. 14,755/2023, which establishes the National Policy on the Rights of Populations Affected by Dams (PNAB). The Law is yet to be regulated by the Parliament. It is important to emphasize, however, that the recent and innovative legislative production, by itself, is not entirely capable of modifying realities or dictating behavior. For the effective protection, consolidation and socioeconomic stabilization of the internally displaced in Brazil, a real construction of social infrastructures represented in national public services and even in civil society is necessary. While this path requires legislation, legal frameworks are not the only need of the hour.

Urban IDP in Tigray Northern Ethiopia: Appraisal of area-based approach pilot project for shelter and settlement response in Mekelle city

Samuel Bekele Jote (Mekelle University), Domenico Patassini and Jacopo Galli (University of Venice)

Internally Displaced Peoples are increasingly choosing to live in urban areas as the influxes exacerbated by natural disasters, climate change, and conflict. Due to the war between Tigray and Ethiopian federal forces conducted from 2020 to 2022, more than 2 million Tigray population have been displaced into different areas, mainly urban centers like Mekelle. Urban IDP in emergency cases need an improved approach for shelter and settlement provision. The Neighborhood Approach Project is an area-based innovative means of shelter and settlement response for urban IDP. The aim of this study is to appraise the area-based approach pilot project in Mekelle. Case study research has conducted using structured, key informant interviews and literature review. This research uses the ten core principles of area-based approach model of Sanderson and Sitko to review the responses. Vulnerable 300 HH IDP from western Tigray living in Mekelle were targeted for the intervention, and 25% of the IDP needed expansions of new shelter, 45% renovation, and 30% rehabilitation of the shelter provided to them by each host family. The three distinct scenarios provided in-kind kits along with cash-based intervention to the host families to allow for expansion of new livable space and repair of their house, allowing them to host one household each who relocated from the collective sites. The result revealed that positive practical implementation of the core area-based approach principles enabled host communities to absorb IDP by increasing social cohesion, economic opportunities, access to services such as school reopening, and reducing protection related risks.

Keywords: Area-based approach, Host communities, Integration, Urban IDP, Shelter and Settlement.

Architectural Solutions for Forced Displacement in Urbanizing Contexts: Navigating Inclusion, Resilience, and Community Engagement

Dian Awaliyah (Sultan Fatah University)

This paper aims to explore how architecture can provide solutions to forced displacement challenges in an urbanizing world. It investigates the role of architecture in addressing the complex socio-economic, environmental, and political issues associated with forced displacement, focusing on strategies that prioritize the well-being and inclusion of displaced populations within urban contexts. The conceptual framework draws upon interdisciplinary perspectives, including architecture, urban planning, humanitarian studies, and social sciences. It situates forced displacement within the broader context of urbanization, emphasizing the spatial dimensions of displacement and the potential of architecture to shape inclusive and resilient urban environments. Methodologically, the study adopts a mixed-methods approach that integrates qualitative case studies, participatory design methods, and policy analysis. Qualitative data is gathered through in-depth interviews, focus groups, and ethnographic observations with displaced communities, architects, urban planners, policymakers, and humanitarian organizations. Participatory design workshops engage displaced populations in co-creating innovative architectural solutions that address their specific needs, preferences, and cultural practices. Additionally, policy analysis examines existing legal frameworks, government policies, and international guidelines related to forced displacement and urban development. Key findings highlight the transformative potential of architecture in mitigating the challenges of forced displacement and fostering inclusive urban environments. Architectural interventions, such as transitional shelters, community centers, and urban infrastructure, play a crucial role in providing safe and dignified living conditions for displaced populations. Design principles that prioritize flexibility, adaptability, and participatory approaches enable displaced

communities to reclaim agency and rebuild social networks within their new urban settings. Furthermore, architecture can facilitate the integration of displaced populations into urban economies and social networks by creating opportunities for employment, education, and community engagement. Sustainable design practices, including passive cooling techniques, green infrastructure, and resource-efficient construction materials, contribute to environmental resilience and mitigate the impact of displacement on natural ecosystems. Policy recommendations emphasize the importance of collaborative governance mechanisms that involve displaced communities, local authorities, humanitarian agencies, and urban planners in decision-making processes. Strengthening legal protections for displaced populations and promoting inclusive urban planning policies can create enabling environments for architectural interventions that prioritize equity, justice, and human rights. Overall, the study underscores the vital role of architecture in addressing forced displacement challenges in an urbanizing world. By centering the voices and agency of displaced communities and adopting holistic, interdisciplinary approaches, architecture can contribute to the creation of inclusive, sustainable, and resilient cities that accommodate the diverse needs and aspirations of all residents, including those affected by forced displacement.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB
Venue : Room 6
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 46

Journey to Wellness: the co-creation of an intervention for forced migrant women

Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham)

Amy Daniel (University of Aberystwyth)

Sheva Martin (Baobab Women's Project)

Also at Creative Display Exhibition Room

Much research focuses upon the experiences of force migrant women who now constitute half of the world's displaced people. It is well established that women fare worse than men in terms of health and wellbeing and in integration outcomes. Integration support, where it exists, tends to be orientated towards forced migrant men with little consideration of the gendered nature of forced migration experiences. While we know that forced migrant women experience a high level of trauma relating to past experiences and the stresses of adapting to a new life in a new country away from friends and family, we know little about how women can be supported to recover from these experiences. The SEREDA research project, based at the University of Birmingham, researched forced migrants' experience of violence from pre-flight to imagined refuge and the effect that violence has on their lives in refuge. The project identified the need for a more gendered approach to integration support finding that women in particular needed help to cope with the stresses of everyday life and encounters with immigration and asylum systems in their countries of refuge. The project has a lengthy connection with Baobab Women's Project who provide advice, advocacy and assistance to refugee and migrant women. They commissioned Baobab to co-produce a wellness programme for forced women who have experienced violence. The content of the programme and the form it takes are decided by the programme's participants which comprise six women and a facilitator with experience of wellbeing and creative interventions. The programme 'tests' a wide range of free or low-cost wellness interventions which other groups or individuals can utilise to help manage stresses associated with engagement in asylum systems and/or building a new life.

This intervention documents the development of the Journey to Wellness. It is a short film documentary filmed by Amy Daniel and introduced at IASFM 20 by Jenny Phillimore, the SEREDA project lead. The film documents the development of strategies to help women to live a good life in the face of a range of adversities. It covers the wide range of creative work that six women and the group facilitator, Sheva Martin, engage in over a 24-week period in a bid to develop these strategies. The group engage in a wide range of creative components alongside self-care activities in an approach which evolves as all parties experience and learn. Activities begin with an exploration phase, moving to consolidation as the group identify preferences and learning and then a refinement phase in which they co-develop learning materials. Activities engaged in include improvisations, journaling, painting, dancing, yoga, tai chi, singing and circle talk. As project progresses the group identifies the actions which can help exorcise negative memories and to re- discover humour while analysing their thoughts and feelings and to become more self-aware. The Journey to Wellness pilot offers women a new lease of life and they engage in techniques which help them to address anxiety, panic attacks and insomnia. The film will show how the actions of the group evolved into the production of a wellbeing toolkit and interactive website available to others wishing to improve their wellness or working with forced migrant system struggling to build a new life after adverse experiences. The intervention ends with an overview of what the project has achieved and some thinking about where it might go next.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB
Venue : Room 7
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 47

Knowledge: Campaign and Social Media

IASFM20 New Panel 17

De-bordering environmental migration: an analysis of information campaigns on climate change-induced migration

Elena Giacomelli and Pierluigi Musarò (University of Bologna)

In recent decades, both migration processes and climate change have been gaining increasing prominence in the public and policy debates. Framed in mainstream media and political discourse as emergency phenomena, or as epiphenomena of crises distant in time or space, the two processes are now more often recognized as related to each other, and rapidly approaching the “Global North” (Musarò and Parmiggiani 2022; Giacomelli 2023; Chen et al. 2023; Badullovich et al. 2020; Ereaut and Segnit 2006). However, the nexus between climate change and migration is narrated almost exclusively in the terms of massive South–North movements of ‘climate refugees’ to be governed and regulated (De Haas 2020; Sturridge and Holloway 2022) omitting the underlying historical relationships between capitalist development model, colonial appropriation, bordering processes and climate (in)justice (Sheller 2018; Cappi 2023). Information campaigns are among the most widely used tools by nation states, intergovernmental and nongovernmental agencies to raise awareness of both environmental degradation and the risks of ‘uncontrolled’ migration. What kind of narrative do information campaigns on this issue propose of the link between migration and climate crisis? What frames are used to narrate environmental migration? Do these campaigns reflect the dichotomies of care and control in the governance of borders? How do they articulate humanitarian and securitarian frames typical of awareness campaigns on irregular migration (Pécoud 2022; Musarò 2019; Chouliaraki 2013)? To the aim of addressing these questions, this paper uses intersectional, decolonial, and feminist lenses to examine the following campaigns: Do the right thing (IOM); Pakistan’s Climate Displaced: where will they go? (Climate Refugees); Faces of migration (Global Call to Action Against Poverty); Together, we can #FindAWay (IOM); and Climate Of Change (WeWorld). The methodologies of critical discourse analysis and framing analysis will allow us to highlight how environmental migration is often reduced to a problem to be solved (Bettini 2019) leading to the ‘pathologization’ and ‘depoliticization’ of the issue (Baldwin and Bettini 2017) and to the racialization of the figure of the environmental migrant. Our findings show on the one hand the positive aspect of campaigns focusing on specific countries and local people’s stories, thus avoiding generalizations. On the other hand, we highlight the potential risk of ‘othering’ the figure of the environmental migrant inherent in both NGOs and IOM’s narratives for different reasons. Finally, we suggest that a more insightful way of thematizing the link between climate change and migration should focus on the link between climate and mobility justice, thus taking into account the historical relationships between the capitalist development model, colonial extraction, and bordering processes.

Meeting Refugees On Instagram: Knowledge Production about Refugees in Digital Space

Bagas Aditya (University of Melbourne)

Refugees are figures whose identities are socially and politically perceived and constructed. However, the mechanisms by which this construction persists in a digitally mediated society are inadequately explored. In this study, I analysed the role of digital media, Instagram, in producing knowledge about refugees, focusing on the recent Rohingya refugee arrivals in Aceh, Indonesia. In this study, I employed a digital ethnographic, an extension of traditional ethnography that focuses on exploring the digital-material environment and the dynamic interplay between human and digital. I selected 145 Instagram posts related to Rohingya refugees from 2020 to 2023 on Instagram @infobandaaceh were analysed to discern the digital representations of refugees and the ensuing public responses within comment sections. Autoethnography was utilized to give a personal reflective analysis of knowledge production (KP). Through analysis, I highlighted that knowledge about refugees is produced through digital representations and knowledge sharing among Instagram commenters. On the Instagram postings, the Rohingya refugees are framed through the lenses of Muslim solidarity but are somehow unwanted infiltrators. The commenters added ideas about refugees by emphasizing the Othering attitudes while some of them also discuss it through a religious solidarity perspectives. The process of platformisation of news forms networked knowledge among news media outlets, the administrator of @infobandaaceh, and Instagram commenters. Additionally, the interactivity of Instagram presents power contestations among the producer and subject of representation. Through this study, I sought to contribute to digital geography discourses by arguing that digital space is not a passive medium and a free space for KP production about refugees. The platformisation of news on @infobandaaceh provides an insight into how knowledge about refugees is produced in a networked environment; involving news media outlets, Instagram administrators, and Instagram commenters. In this dynamic networked environment, refugees become invisible as they do not have access to Instagram. The refugee's pictures are visible in digital space, but their voices remain invisible.

Navigating the Social Media Landscape: Exploring its Influence on Syrian Resettlement in Turkey

Muhammed Zeyn (University of Oxford)

This study delves into the impact of social media on the perceptions and discussions surrounding Syrian integration in Turkey. Through in-depth interviews with 15 Syrians residing in Istanbul, this research employs thematic analysis to explore their perspectives and interactions on various social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Telegram. The interviews uncover a nuanced relationship with social media, where online spaces serve as avenues for connecting with their community and preserving cultural identity. Simultaneously, these platforms expose them to racist rhetoric and negative narratives that cast Syrians in an unfavorable light. The study reveals the influence of negative social media campaigns on both online and offline interactions, contributing to feelings of insecurity and exclusion. However, it also highlights the empowering role of supportive online communities that offer solace to Syrians. The research sheds light on the challenges posed by the "spiral of silence" effect, the manipulation of facts, and the marginalization of Syrians through online narratives. Furthermore, it examines the dominance of political figures and opposition voices in shaping online discussions. To navigate these complexities, respondents adopt selective engagement or disengagement strategies across different platforms. The paper investigates how social media can both facilitate Syrian integration and pose risks that threaten its progress. It calls for a discourse on countering disinformation and establishing an inclusive digital legal framework. Ultimately, this research aims to present significant findings from the interviews, highlighting the intricate and multi-dimensional role of social media in shaping Syrian experiences of integration within Turkey's evolving intricate social landscape.

Keywords: Social media, Syrian integration, Turkey, online narratives.

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Venue : Room 8 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 48

**Climate-related Human Mobility in Asia and the Pacific:
Interdisciplinary Rights-based Approaches (Book Discussion)**

Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, South Asian University, Asia
Pacific Academic Network on Disaster Displacement

The proposed panel will discuss the upcoming edited volume titled “Climate-related Human Mobility in Asia and the Pacific: Interdisciplinary Rights-based Approaches” that will be published in September 2024 by Springer with open access licensing. This initiative is spearheaded by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in partnership with South Asian University and the Asia Pacific Academic Network on Disaster Displacement (APANDD), supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. This edited volume investigates how climate change is altering human mobility, particularly in the Asia Pacific region, emphasizing the need for governments to integrate these factors into their planning and policy-making processes through rights-based approaches. It advocates for comprehensive funding, infrastructure improvements, and institutional capabilities to address climate-related human mobility, aligning with international obligations. This innovative approach combines policy and theoretical dimensions with empirical studies, offering unique insights from academic, human rights, and governmental perspectives, which is linked to the IASFM Theme 1 on the Global Agenda for International Migration, as well as the Special Theme on Asia Pacific.

Moderator: Danang Nizar (Raoul Wallenberg Institute/RWI, Indonesia)

Mr. Nizar will act as the moderator for this panel and share brief insights on the process that led to this book’s creation. The book is the result of the first Asia Pacific Conference on Climate Change, Human Mobility, and Human Rights, and reflects RWI’s efforts to support the Asia Pacific scholarship on climate-related mobility through the APANDD platform.

Dr. Dora Kuir-Ayius (University of Papua New Guinea, PNG)

Dr. Kuir-Ayius will share her book chapter titled “Impact of Climate Change and Accessing Services in Papua New Guinea.” With rising sea levels, changes in rainfall, increased frequency of El Niño-type conditions, and increased intensity of cyclones, the Pacific Islands region is exposed to climate change. A large proportion of people are marginalised and are among the most vulnerable and least prepared to cope with its impacts. There are many competing definitions of the concept of vulnerability, but in the context of the Pacific Islands countries (PICs), it is referred to as the lack of power, influence, and control of those affected by climate change. The lack of power is reflected where access to resources is minimised. This can be viewed in various ways, including a lack of access to basic services such as enabling infrastructure, transport, hospitals, and others. In addition, the lack of access to income-generating opportunities further complicates the challenges imposed by the impact of climate change. In most of the PICs, including Papua New Guinea (PNG), Kiribati, Vanuatu, Marshal Islands, and Cook Islands, the chances of access to basic needs such as food, water, and land for survival are threatened. Approaches to dealing with climate change, displacement of people, and issues of traditional land ownership and relocation must be taken seriously. The chapter presents some challenges of accessing services in PNG in the midst of climate change.

Dinushika Abeywardhana (University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka)

Ms. Abeywardhana will share her chapter titled “Climate Change and Socio-Economic Issues in Sri Lanka: An Assessment of Landslide-Induced Relocations in Aranayake.” As a tropical island with a developing economy in the South Asian region, Sri Lanka is exposed to the adverse impacts of climate change. Extreme weather events and their slow-onset effects have threatened well-functioning communities, becoming a core factor for climate mobility. This chapter explores the socio-economic impacts of landslide-induced relocations in Aranayake, Sri Lanka. In 2017, communities in Aranayake experienced a massive landslide, leading to widespread relocations. The relocation of the affected community to peripheral areas intensified their economic and social vulnerabilities, putting their well-being at risk. The lack of consideration for the societal implications of the relocation and rebuilding process further increased their vulnerability by disrupting social networks and reducing livelihoods. Despite five years having passed since the landslide relocation, community insecurities persist, and access to fundamental rights, including food, development, and freedom, remain negatively impacted. Proper identification of community needs before relocation and thorough post-monitoring are essential for forming effective and community-sensitive policies in Sri Lanka. 3

James Rumpia (Universitas Lampung, Indonesia)

Mr. Rumpia’s chapter, titled “Adat Communities Marginalization: Intersectionality of Land Grabbing, Human Rights, Climate Adaptation, and Human Mobility in Indonesia,” examines issues related to the existence of Adat communities based on indigenous knowledge, the environment, and their role in climate change mitigation and adaptation. The chapter addresses the problem of indigenous peoples’ marginalization through the intersectionality of land grabbing, human rights fulfillment, climate adaptation, and human mobility. Using indigenous and local knowledge along with a human rights-based approach, it explores the traditions, knowledge, and dynamics of indigenous peoples’ rights. Focusing on the Sikep and Rendu communities in Indonesia, the chapter illustrates how their traditional farming practices contribute to conservation. However, their marginalization due to the expansion of the cement business and dam projects has led to land grabbing and forced migration. Additionally, the fragmentation of law and policy creates multiple vulnerabilities, stemming from the absence of specific indigenous peoples’ laws, limited legal recognition, the bureaucratic-administrative nature of land registration, and the loss of meaningful participation in environmental and climate policy.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB
Venue : Room 9 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 49

Innovative Approaches to Belonging in Urban Spaces: Reframing the Debate on Integration, Migration, and Inclusion from a Multidisciplinary Perspective

Craig Mortley (University of Connecticut)

This discussion brings together practitioners and scholars across different disciplines, fields, and backgrounds working on urban belonging, mobility, migration, and displacement. Our goal is to consider an array of scholarly and applied projects over the past 15 years that represent attempts to shift power relations to create meaningful space for new and historically marginalized perspectives on what it means to belong for folks from displacement backgrounds living in diverse cities. The projects we discuss relate to scholarly research, media, culture, and artistic expression that center the voices of people with lived experiences of displacement and mobility. We recognize them as experts with crucial knowledge to inform decision-making processes within humanitarian and public policy fields, media, the arts, academia, and activism. How, we ask, have these attempts actually transformed dominant narratives around migration, belonging, and integration in cities, and in what ways have they impacted populations from displacement and mobility backgrounds in urban areas? Through this multidisciplinary approach, we hope to shed light on common challenges across these efforts. This includes an analysis of extant power dynamics in urban spaces as well as the underpinning discursive frameworks that squeeze mobile people, their experiences, and needs for belonging into dominant sedentary paradigms. As well, this roundtable aims to uplift innovative strategies for the weaving of disparate knowledges, including those with lived experience with displacement and mobility that aim to both effect change at the municipal decision-making level and foster empathy for the range of human experience. Put another way, our discussion serves as a platform to highlight ways of reconceptualizing the notion of belonging at a social and policy level. We explore how spaces and social structures can be transformed to create a sense of belonging that is inclusive, empowering, and sensitive to the experiences of displaced individuals.

Our panel aims to integrate scholarly research with practical, ground-level initiatives, fostering a multidisciplinary dialogue that emphasizes the lived experiences of displaced individuals in urban settings. We plan to incorporate a variety of perspectives, including academic research, media, cultural studies, and artistic expression, to explore the nuanced narratives of migration, belonging, and integration. This session places a high emphasis on participation and engagement from attendees. We will begin with three presentations that collectively explore multifaceted cultural integration and belonging processes for young refugees and migrants in urban settings, emphasizing innovative community activities, participatory research methods, and the necessity of evolving integration policies to foster inclusive societies. Subsequently, participants will be able to introduce their own initiatives, fostering a collaborative environment. Attendees will then be divided into small groups and provided with guiding questions to stimulate focused discussions. This approach will facilitate in-depth conversations, enabling participants to share their experiences and collaboratively identify challenges and potential solutions.

Making Worcester Home: Youth Participatory Action Research, Newcomer Belonging, and the Politics of Navigating Urban Space

Craig Mortley (University of Connecticut School of Social Work), Adam Saltsman (Worcester State University)

In recent years the concept of belonging has featured prominently in forced migration scholarship, especially related to the urban experiences of people from refugee backgrounds (Harris et al., 2021; Marshall, 2023; Yuval Davis, 2011). Such scholarship offers a notion of belonging that is tied to socio-spatial relationships, diaspora politics, and the subjective experiences of navigating life in the context of displacement. A focus on belonging offers a lens to forced migrant mobility and (un)settlement that considers refugee experiences as transnational, fluid, and multiscalar. While this concept adds much needed nuance and complexity to questions of forced migrant integration, there often remains in such scholarship a barrier of disciplinary reductionism; i.e. a tendency to analyze forced migrant subjects primarily in terms of factors directly related to their migration and integration. In this paper, we argue that an inductive approach which centers the voices of people from refugee backgrounds in the design of our methods can create space for analyses of a politics of belonging that breaks such a barrier. We suggest that young people from this population offer a unique perspective into what it means to navigate urban life. We offer insights from our Youth Participatory Action Research project "Making Worcester Home," which we have co-facilitated with three different youth groups in 2019, 2020, and 2023 in the city of Worcester, Massachusetts in the United States. Through journaling, community maps, photovoice, interviews, and focus groups, youth and co-facilitators engaged in reflective practices and dialogues to co-construct knowledge about their experiences and perceptions related to urban displacement and belonging. Our findings reveal a complex portrait of belonging that intersects with race, gender, and migration status, detailing how these youth perceive and interact with both physical and social urban spaces.

Integrating Together? Innovative policies for bridging refugee and settled communities

Anita Fábos and Leora Kahn (Clark University)

The Integration and Belonging Hub (IBH) is an initiative formed within Clark University's Sustainability and Social Justice department. Its mission is to foster migrant and refugee-inclusive communities locally, nationally, and globally through student learning, community engagement, and research and policy analysis. At the core of this mission is the idea that our dynamic societies and the mobile people among them (refugees, asylum seekers, migrants and others) are continually "integrating together" through multi-directional bridging processes towards social cohesion. Prior integration research and practice highlights the urgency of updating our view of societies as sedentary receivers of refugees and other migrants, and instead involve them as key participants in sustainable development. But how is this paradigm shift addressed in policy? Despite the important idea of integration as a multi-directional process that requires accommodation across a variety of settled and newcomer groups, policies in practice require newcomers to carry out the bulk of adaptation work, with little to no expectations of shifts on the part of settled groups towards integration. We understand this [oversight] as a logical function of how societies are currently organized around orders-*borders-identities* (Vertovec, 2004). Nevertheless, with increasing attention to the reality of people on the move, policy makers will need to find ways to accommodate and normalize multi-sited emplacement and domiciling, bridge and merge networks, and otherwise conceptualize new ways to connect people beyond the metaphor of newcomers "integrating into" a static society. This presentation identifies themes emerging from our inventory of integration policies over the past 15 years, shares innovative examples of integration in urban settings that demonstrate a shared worlds approach. We

also reflect on our own practices and pitfalls in co-creating integrated places and spaces that build on best practices, including the Integration and Belonging Hub itself.

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Ultra-Minorities in a Diverse Urban Landscape: The Cham Community in Seattle

Tunggal Puji Lestari (University of Washington)

This study explores the Cham refugee community in Seattle, focusing on their cultural preservation and identity amidst multilayered identities as Indigenous, Muslim, Asian American, and refugee. My initial encounter with the Cham community began five years ago upon moving to Seattle, where I lived with an Indonesian family involved in managing the Cham Refugee Community in South Seattle. Historically, the Cham people are descendants of the Champa Kingdom, which thrived in Central Vietnam for over a millennium before its conquest by the Vietnamese in 1471. The Cham have since faced marginalization and displacement, becoming a minority in their homeland and later within French Indochina. Seattle, known for its diversity and significant immigrant population, has a small but vibrant Cham community. This community is characterized as an ultra-minority group, as defined by Literary scholars Bergur Rønne Morberg and David Damrosch, not only due to their small numbers but also their limited access to resources. This study employs this ultra-minority framework to understand the unique challenges faced by the Cham in preserving their cultural identity. Through ethnographic research, I observed the Cham Refugee Community's efforts in cultural preservation, including native language retention programs and cultural events like summer night markets and weekly ethnic food stands. These initiatives highlight the community's resilience in maintaining their heritage amidst the complexities of their identity. The role of women in advocating for Cham identity is also significant. Anida Ali, a Tacoma-based artist, exemplifies this through her exhibition "Buddhist Bug" at the Seattle Asian Art Museum, which portrays Muslim minorities in predominantly Buddhist Cambodia and reflects her Cham refugee identity. Additionally, the establishment of Salimar Specialties, the first Cham restaurant in Seattle during the COVID-19 pandemic, underscores the importance of culinary traditions in cultural preservation, serving as a testament to the resilience of the Cham community. Culinary performances, as described by Dossa (2014), are powerful acts of cultural memory and identity preservation, showcasing the Cham community's enduring spirit and adaptability. This study aims to enhance understanding of how ultra-minor refugee communities like the Cham navigate identity preservation and integration in diverse urban environments. It also examines how cities like Seattle facilitate minority voices through cultural and artistic platforms, contributing to broader discussions on migration, minority communities, and cultural sustainability. Keywords Cham community, cultural preservation, identity, ultra-minority, Seattle, refugee, ethnography, immigrant integration, culinary traditions, artistic advocacy.

Redefining Urban Integration for Refugee in Transit in Indonesia

Marupa Hasudungan Sianturi and Akino Tahir (Resilience Development Initiative)

The global refugee crisis has left refugees and asylum seekers in Indonesia stuck in prolonged transit, with few chances for resettlement elsewhere. Integration efforts face hurdles as the Western concept doesn't align with local realities, urging the need for redefining integration and exploring alternative approaches to enhance urban integration in Indonesia. This paper delves into Jacobsen's framework for refugee integration in transit countries, particularly in developing nations where permanent asylum and integration measures are less common. It conducts a comprehensive literature analysis, incorporating academic papers, media articles, and institutional documents to grasp the contextual foundations of integration, transit situations, and the urban refugee issue in Indonesia. Refugee integration is a dynamic process requiring collaboration from all stakeholder. This study showed that it is necessary for refugees adapt while preserving their cultural identity and for host communities and institutions to be open to embracing diversity of refugee groups. This paper introduces the Transition Integration Model (TIM) within transit contexts, encompassing identity, social connection, language/cultural knowledge, education, and livelihood/employment domains. This study supported existing literatures that the integration of marginalized individuals in forced displacement scenarios is complex, requiring collaboration among governments, civil society, host communities, and displaced populations. The Transition Integration Model (TIM) offers a potential alternative to traditional integration approaches, particularly in developing countries, but it is necessary to conduct further research to test the model to effectively capture the meaning of urban integration in Indonesian context.

Keywords: integration, urban refugee, asylum seekers, forced displacement, transition integration.

Day, Date : Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 16.15–17.45 WIB
Venue : Room 10 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 5, Panel 50

Archives of Resistance:

Preserving Memories of Cultural Resistance in Chile and the Diaspora

Paul Dudman (University of East London)

Claudio Ogass Bilbao, Marieke Riethof, and Richard G. Smith (University of Liverpool)

This panel session will focus archives and their role as a focal point for both preserving diasporic community memory and also as site of cultural resistance. Speakers will use the 50th anniversary of the military coup in Chile in September 2023 to consider the importance of archives situated within the specific context of Chile reflecting on how archives can support collective remembering and enabling a shared past to be preserved and made accessible for posterity. Speakers will focus on experience of working with the Documenting Chile Archive at the University of East London and the Tallersol Cultural Centre was founded in Santiago de Chile in 1977 as case study examples of how archives can act as centres for preserving memories of cultural resistance within the context of Chile and the solidarity movements abroad. We will add individual papers and a fuller session description for this panel shortly. If possible could this be a hybrid session as a couple of the speakers may not be able to make it in person.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB

Venue : Room 1

Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 51

N/A

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB

Venue : Room 2

Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 52

Humanitarian and Human Rights Responses to Complex Displacement

Susan Banki (University of Sydney)

A significant portion of the international refugee regime is comprised of humanitarian actors and institutions that respond to situations of displacement through the provision of shelter, health services, and education, as well as offering other forms of protection through pursuing human rights approaches, engaging in advocacy, or negotiating with (potential or actual) host states. Humanitarian and human rights operations are often structured around differentiated types of displacement. That is, the relevant stakeholders providing aid and protection for internally displaced may be different from those who offer that same support to those who cross state borders. Likewise, those who are categorized as fleeing conflict are often assisted by different agencies than those who have migrated because of climate change. Yet there is increasing evidence that conflict- and climate-related displacement are not binary experiences, and in fact there is increasing overlap. For example, internally displaced refugees in Myanmar, asylum seekers in Mexico, and refugees in Kenya are suffering the effects of extreme heat.

In this panel, we examine the ways that humanitarian and human rights actors understand, frame, and respond to displacement given the increasing complexity of climate change and conflict. A range of geographical regions and themes are covered. This includes theoretical and practical positionings, as well as empirical work in Bangladesh, the Philippines, and the Pacific Islands. Susan Banki reviews the current literature on the conflict/climate overlap and notes some of the factors that explain current humanitarian responses. Tamara Wood presents recent work on the development of a holistic set of guiding principles for governments and others involved in addressing climate mobility. Sheryn See examines humanitarian response through qualitative interviews with humanitarian practitioners and highlights the varied challenges and responses to conflict-induced and climate-induced displacement in the Philippines. Charlotte Evans and Amelia Savage explore the opportunities and challenges of 'migration as adaptation' within the Pacific region. Natalia Szablewska examines the linkages between climate change and modern slavery, and the consequences thereof for humanitarian practice that needs to address these interconnected crises.

Complexity in Climate–Conflict Displacement: a theoretical overview of the problematic conflict/climate binary, and humanitarian responses

Susan Banki (University of Sydney)

Climate change, disasters and conflict are recognised as causes of displacement, with growing acknowledgement of the potential for climate change and disasters to intensify both conflict dynamics and displacement patterns (K. Peters et al., 2021). The current displacement landscape is rarely the result of a single trigger (Sturridge & Holloway, 2022) and there is increasing recognition amongst scholars that it is often caused by the overlapping impacts of climate change, disasters, and conflict. To date, there is a gap in synthesising the relationship between climate change, conflict, and displacement outcomes, as well as understanding how humanitarian organisations navigate displacement contexts in their response efforts. This paper seeks to explore the discourse surrounding the relationship between climate change, disasters, and conflict in the literature. It further assesses the preparedness of the current humanitarian regime, which pertains to the setup and operations of

humanitarian organisations, in addressing the increasing complexities of displacement. In addressing these knowledge gaps, this paper aims to synthesis findings and bridge research domains that have traditionally been isolated from one another.

A holistic approach to addressing climate mobility

Tamara Wood (University of New South Wales)

Climate change and disasters are having far-reaching impacts on human mobility around the world. Sudden-onset hazards (such as tropical storms, cyclones and flooding), slower-onset processes (such as sea-level rise, rising temperatures and desertification) and the combination of the two (such as storm surges riding on higher volumes of water because of rising sea levels) may prompt people to move away from anticipated or actual harm. When it comes to legal and policy responses to climate mobility, there is no one-size-fits-all approach. A range of tools is needed to ensure that responses are context-specific, rights-respecting and responsive to the humanitarian needs of those affected – including those at risk of displacement, those who choose to move, those who stay behind, and host, transit and diaspora communities. The Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility were published in 2023. Authored by Professor Jane McAdam and Dr Tamara Wood, the Principles provide governments, affected communities, international and humanitarian organisations, civil society groups and other stakeholders with evidence-based, legally sound tools for addressing climate mobility. The recommendations contained in the Principles draw on established international law and policy frameworks relevant to climate mobility, but are also adaptable and can be tailored to specific circumstances, now and into the future. This presentation will provide an overview of the Principles, and highlight some of the key cross-cutting themes for government and others working to address this issue.

Intersecting Crises: Climate Change, Modern Slavery and Forced Displacement

Natalia Szablewska (The Open University, UK)

This presentation focuses on the circular relationship between climate change and modern slavery, which is often facilitated by and through forced migration, having a compounding effect on human rights of the affected individuals and communities. It proposes that effective humanitarian responses must address these interconnected crises with an integrated approach that combines immediate relief with long-term community resilience building. According to the most recent estimates, modern slavery affects nearly 50 million people annually (ILO, Walk Free and IOM, 2022). Those on the move, in particular if they have unsettled legal status, are particularly vulnerable to the risk of modern slavery, which covers diverse forms of acute human exploitation, ranging from forced or bonded labour, human trafficking to forced marriage. Certain industries, such as agriculture, construction, manufacturing or fishing, have historically been at high risk of modern slavery throughout their operations and supply chains. These are also the industries that tend to be contributing disproportionately to environmental destruction and carbon emissions. At the same time, climate-induced environmental changes drive forced migration and increase vulnerability to modern slavery (Boyd et al., 2018). It is now well-documented that climate change exacerbates vulnerabilities, leading to displacement and increasing the risk of individuals falling into modern slavery. As natural and human-made disasters, including conflicts (Szablewska, 2022b), and environmental stresses disrupt communities, they create conditions ripe for exploitation, trafficking and forced labour (Walk Free, n.d.; Szablewska, 2023, 2020). Yet, modern slavery also contributes to climate change by being a facilitator in labour provision for illegal practices, being it illegal logging in the Amazon rainforest (Francelino-Gonçalves-Dias and Mendonca, 2011; ILO, 2009), overfishing in Thailand (Marschke and Vandergeest, 2016; EJF, 2015) or child and debt-bonded labour brickmaking

in Cambodia (Brickell et al., 2019). These practices are mutually destructive and exacerbate degrading and exploitative conditions that continue to fuel inequalities and environmental degradation. Consequently, modern slavery and climate change cannot be seen or studied as separate and distinct issues (Szablewska, 2022a; Bales and Sovacool, 2021). This, however, poses a real challenge to humanitarian responses as the legal and policy landscapes of modern slavery and climate change management are largely fragmented and often operate in silos, hindering effective and coordinated action. There is, therefore, a need for a shift in humanitarian practice whereby strategies and interventions focus on addressing both climate-induced displacement and exploitation to enhance the resilience of communities to prevent exploitation and manage climate risks.

The complex role of migration within [present and anticipated] contexts of climate-related displacement in the Pacific region

Charlotte Evans (University of Cambridge), Amelia Savage (Jesuit Refugee Service)

Climate-related migration presents a multi-faceted and growing challenge amidst anthropogenic climate change. Within a spectrum of climate mobility - from climate-induced displacement to proactive migratory pathways - climate both drives and exacerbates existing vulnerabilities for many communities. Within the Asia Pacific region, disaster and climate-induced displacement is a very real and present challenge, especially for low-lying atoll nations. Despite a growing awareness of these challenges, there persists several gaps between knowledge and action, and a lack of knowledge and preparedness of host context communities. We present the findings from a study on climate-related migration conducted at the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia. During a process of creating and refining a Policy Platform, we engaged with a range of stakeholders - including legal experts, civil society and faith groups, and those with voices of lived experience from the Pacific - to gain feedback on advocacy priorities from an Australian perspective. While climate-related displacement falls between protection gaps within international refugee law, the research process confirmed that revisiting and expanding the UN Refugee Convention is not the favoured route. Legal experts within this field supported the use of existing frameworks in innovative ways, and highlight that international refugee law is just one tool within a broader suite of options. This paper examines those options and discusses the types of concerns that arise from them, including protecting against exploitation, encouraging "migration with dignity" and post-relocation resettlement. Furthermore, alongside the spectrum of mobility options, it is clear that the option to stay at home remains a priority for many individuals in the region. Further resourcing for in-situ adaptation and mitigation therefore remains essential, at the same time as expanding the toolkit of response pathways. As the Australian Government seeks to engage further with its 'Pacific family', scrutinising its emerging migration pathways and climate (in)action therefore remains critical.

The Philippines' Humanitarian Response to Complex Displacement Crises at the Intersection of Climate Change, Disasters, and Conflict

Sheryn See (University of Sydney)

The Philippines experiences one of the highest rates of internal displacement globally (IDMC, 2022). According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), the Philippines experienced 123,000 internal displacements in 2022 due to conflict, mostly concentrated in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Additionally, 5,445,000 displacements due to disasters occurred within the same year, many of which were also recurring movements of the same communities who had fled previous disasters (IDMC, 2023). Through qualitative research methods, we probe into the perspectives of humanitarian decision-makers in the Philippines, drawing from their

extensive experience and knowledge in addressing displacement crises. This paper identifies how humanitarian organisations typically define displacement contexts through needs assessment, triggers preceding displacement event, and past experiences of responding to similar events. It also highlights the various challenges humanitarian organisations face in responding to climate-induced and conflict-induced displacement, including issues related to accessibility, media attention, and funding support. While humanitarian organisations are often categorised by displacement triggers in existing grey literature, we highlight other factors influencing varied responses to different displaced communities. These factors include: whether the displacement occurs in an urban or rural setting; whether there is an assistance request from the government; humanitarian organisations' operational presence; political motivations of local leaders; and the presence of local grassroots organisations with whom to collaborate during response actions. By engaging with multiple humanitarian actors across various humanitarian organisations operating in the Philippines, this paper aims to uncover the nuances of navigating responses within a highly hazardous and politically fragile terrain.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 3
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 53

Refugee Reception in Southern Africa (Book Discussion)

Nicholas Maple (Refugee Law Initiative, School of Advanced Study, University of London)

This book discussion panel will engage with key themes from the new book by Dr Nicholas Maple, entitled *Refugee Reception in Southern Africa*, which is released in July 2024, by University of London Press (Open Access). The book sets out a new understanding of state-based refugee reception that reflects the complex dynamics of contemporary refugee arrival in southern Africa. It is no longer realistic (if it ever was) to understand persons who flee across a border as a homogeneous group whose movement abruptly ends once they arrive in a host state or refugee camp. While state-based reception is frequently framed as one-off moments, such as registration, *Refugee Reception in Southern Africa* examines reception as a complex and ongoing process of negotiations between refugees and state, with reception policies vital in shaping a refugee's ability to settle and engage with local communities and labour markets. The discussion panel will engage with and draw on these ideas to explore the temporariness attached to most forms of refugeehood in the majority world; and the interplay between reception policies found at the national level, with the welcomes forced migrants regularly locate on their own at the ground level through forms of urban citizenship.

Topics and questions to be discussed include: i) can forms of state-based reception eventually move into forms of permanence or belonging for refugees in contexts such as Southern Africa?; ii) is a rethink of durable solutions urgently needed, especially if ideas of local integration are no longer viable or even relevant to many forced migrants in the majority world?; and iii) can alternative forms of acceptance found at the ground-level create sufficient attachment to a host state that allows forced migrants to pursue long-term personal and economic goals, through human agency and mobility?

Chair: Jasmin Lilian Diab

Discussants:

- Nicholas Maple is a Lecturer in Refugee Studies at the Refugee Law Initiative, School of Advanced Study, University of London. He is also a Research Associate at the African Centre for Migration & Society (ACMS), University of the Witwatersrand and the Co-Editor in Chief at the *Refugee Survey Quarterly* journal (Oxford University Press).
- Natalia Cintra is British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow at the Politics and International Relations Department at the University of Southampton. Natalia's research interests lie at intersections of forced mobility, race and gender, with a specific focus on Latin America.
- Shaddin Almasri is a Post Doctorial Research at the IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems, Austria. Her research interests are in aid policy, development, and refugee labour integration with a regional focus on the Middle East.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 4
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 54

Knowledge: Subaltern Politics & the Voice 1

IASFM20 New Panel 19

Friendship in Refugee Journeys: as challenge to state power

Lucy Fiske (University of Technology Sydney)

Forced migration scholarship attests to the critical importance of relationships to refugees' survival through theoretical frameworks such as social networks, diaspora studies, or social and cultural capital. Such approaches generate valuable insight into refugee lives and decision-making, but tend to 'flatten' the experiential richness of these relationships, leaving the affective or emotional contours of refugee lives as notes in the fieldwork journal that never quite make it into the published paper; too subjective or peripheral to the 'real' work of the social sciences. Ethnographic observations and in-depth qualitative interviews among a community of Hazara refugees in Indonesia across 10 years, show that friendship can be key in the decades-long endurance test that is contemporary refugeehood. This paper draws out the importance of friendship in refugee journeys and argues that in addition to friendship's important role in the emotional and material survival of individual refugees, refugee friendships also have political effects. This paper argues that, where states seek to immobilise or control refugee populations, friendships can enable movement, and enable survival (of bodies and hope) where erasure or return are biopolitical aims. I then look at how friendships formed in displacement are enabling refugees to critique and challenge patriarchal structures within their natal cultures. Drawing on queer and feminist theories, this paper argues that friendship presents a challenge to state and cultural power.

Challenges of Refugee Youth to Become the Drivers of Change in Indonesia

Ali Reza Yawari (Emplace Youth Initiative)

This abstract delves into the focal role of refugee youth in Indonesia's refugee community and their struggle against systemic neglect and barriers. This study examines the emergence of refugee youth activism, the spectrum of services they provide, and the challenges they confront. Indonesia hosts over 12,000 refugees and asylum seekers, with a significant portion residing in community housing locations in Cisarua and Jakarta and the other half scattered throughout different cities in detention centers and accommodations monitored by the Immigration Task Force. Despite being a signatory to various human rights treaties, Indonesia's policy framework restricts refugees from working, accessing government services, or attaining tertiary education. The evolving migration landscape, from a transit to a host country, has left many refugees in limbo, facing prolonged waits for resettlement. Refugee youth have filled critical gaps in community support through self-driven initiatives and voluntary activities either in detention centers, IOM accommodations or the community housings, offering education, interpretation services, psychosocial programs, and livelihood skills opportunities. These initiatives arose from the unmet needs by the system following policy shifts in 2014 inspired by Australian inhumane immigration policies, transforming temporary stays into protracted ones. Refugee youth, predominantly unaccompanied minors who have turned adult after a decade, exhibit resilience, innovation, and a sense of mission in addressing community

needs. However, youth refugee-led efforts encounter challenges stemming from resource constraints, restrictions set by immigration, and legal limitations. Legal documentation hurdles hinder their access to rights and impede their activism. Moreover, distrust between youth and UN agencies hampers effective communications, exacerbating the invisibility of youth needs and youth-led activities. Refugee youth's activism has faced backlash within the refugee community, with accusations of jeopardizing resettlement opportunities. Such perceptions contribute to volunteer retention issues and exacerbate mental health challenges among youth which led to severe depression, self-harms and suicides. As resettlement prospects diminish mainly for one specific category of refugees, despair permeates the refugee youth, necessitating urgent attention to mental health support and addressing the root causes of hopelessness and negligence of youth by the system. While refugee youth exhibit remarkable agency and resilience, systemic failures perpetuate their disenfranchisement. To support youth refugees effectively, stakeholders should feel obliged to enhance protection mechanisms, and communication channels. UN agencies need to reassess resettlement criteria to ensure engagement in activism does not hinder resettlement opportunities and do not overlook an individual's protection. Ultimately, addressing youth refugees' challenges requires a concerted effort to uphold their rights and pursue durable solutions amidst uncertain circumstances.

Unintelligible lifeworlds: Sexual and gender minority refugees living in Southeast Asian cities

Tamara Megaw (University of Sydney)

Many people with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (SOGIE) are forced to flee their country of origin or place of habitual residence to avoid persecution and to safely exercise their human rights. Persecution based on one's real or SOGIE is potentially grounds for claiming asylum according to the 1951 Refugee Convention. However, a person with diverse SOGIE may not feel safe to disclose their identity or claim on that basis, especially in places where authorities may not be sympathetic or challenge the credibility of their claim. Sexual and gender minorities face even higher levels of discrimination and violence due to their diverse gender identity, presentation, or sexual orientation, than those experienced by the larger refugee population (Rosenberg 2016). In addition to refugees with diverse SOGIE being excluded from protection initiatives, discrimination leads to lack of representation in decision-making regarding how initiatives are designed and implemented. This paper explores these challenges for refugees with diverse SOGIE in the context of transit countries in Southeast Asia, incorporating perspectives from refugee protection stakeholders and self-settled refugees living in urban centres. The study is a comparative case study in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand to learn about the diverse and contingent protection strategies that refugees enact in their struggle against exclusion and discrimination. A post-intentional phenomenological research design is applied to explore the 'lifeworlds' of refugees and reflect on their process of orientation. The paper shares the ways refugee minorities form their gendered and sexual identities, in a 'process of becoming' (Hoffman, Tierney & Robertson 2017) within their experience of forced migration. This provides learning about refugees with diverse SOGIE orienting within their reconstituted community in exile, their host city, social minority advocacy groups and humanitarian actors providing protection services. The findings indicate the need to explore the tension between protection for the whole refugee community and intersectional concerns for individuals from minority groups. The research contributes to theory by exploring intelligibility of minorities within refugee governance regimes, especially in the context of urban centres in Southeast Asia.

Locating refugees in Indonesian Social Citizenship

Nurul Azizah Zayzda (University of Melbourne)

This presentation is part of Nurul's PhD research, which discusses the recognition of refugees' social rights within Indonesian social citizenship practices, particularly refugees' rights to health and education. The analysis in this research incorporates literature on social citizenship and the postcolonial approach to citizenship. The aim is to explain the root of the lack of recognition of refugees' social rights in Indonesian context, by tracing it back to the evolution of social policy that constructs the logic of rights and duty. The presentation further discusses the social programs of international and non-governmental organisations that work around the restrictions on refugees' social citizenship in Indonesia.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15-12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 5
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 55

(Re)ception/Knowledge: Migration Governance and the City

IASFM20 New Panel 20

Understanding the experience of belonging of newly arrived Palestinian and Syrian refugee children enrolled in summer camp activities in Montreal

Hend Alqawasma and Nicole Ives (McGill School of Social Work)

Belonging has been conceptualized as a sense of attachment to others and togetherness, having an important impact on well-being and mental health. This research explores experiences of belonging in newly arrived refugee and asylum seeker children in a community setting in Montreal, Canada, in a 6-week summer camp program in 2018. Camp Cosmos provides children from myriad social, economic and cultural backgrounds with a safe and fun environment in which to play, learn and grow. The camp's approach is to develop a sense of belonging among refugee children and families by weaving together their cultures from their countries of origin with those of their new community, to strengthen a sense of belonging and identity in their new setting. The research was grounded in an anti-oppression approach, aiming at building communities with families and fostering support networks with partner organizations to ensure equity and offer the same opportunities to all participants.

A qualitative phenomenological approach was used to understand processes of belonging for refugee children in a recreational setting. In-depth individual interviews were conducted with 14 campers before and after the camp. Children's ages were between 6 and 14 years old, originating from Palestine and Syria. Data were also collected by interviewing 3 staff members and holding a focus group discussion with 5 mothers, which allowed interpretation of data from an observer's point of view, adding additional dimensions to the analysis. Through qualitative data analysis, 3 themes emerged that shed light on the importance of recreational activities for refugee children, illustrating their sense of belonging as defined by their lived experience: integration and inclusion, relationality, and environmental mastery. Through the summer camp activities, children were able to build meaningful friendships with peers and improve on their language skills. They learned how to navigate and use resources independently, enabling them to then assist their families in doing so. The camp also introduced the children and their families to aspects of Canadian culture and traditions. Overall, the camp played an essential role not only in the social integration of children and their families but also in the development of a sense of belonging and feeling at home in the city of Montreal.

The creation of a sense of belonging for refugee children in a new country typically happens when they participate in new educational contexts. Recreational activities can be another pathway outside of school settings beneficial in helping children shape their sense of belonging to their new community. Increasing funding and sliding-scale payments for such recreational programs will further help children and their families better integrate in their new environment and would limit the risk of exclusion or rejection because of citizenship or economic status. Building long-term recreational activities through schools and community organizations is an important factor in supporting refugee children and their families integrate and develop a sense of belonging in their new communities.

75 Years of the Unrecognised Urban: The case of Al-Mahatta Refugee Camp in Amman Jordan

Reqqa Salem (International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture)

If you were to visit Mokhayam Al-Mahatta (The Train Station Refugee Camp) in the Jordanian capital Amman, you will find yourself surrounded by uni-coloured buildings without a single tent or a train track in sight. Al-Mahatta camp is an improvised unofficial camp that was established in 1948 by displaced Palestinians in the wake of the Palestinian Nakba (Al-Assal, 2019). The camp quickly changed from makeshift tents to unauthorised houses and small shops. The particular location of the camp within the downtown, the oldest central commercial area, was chosen due to its proximity to the historical Hedjaz Railway station and the adjacent markets. Since then, the camp's population has grown with new waves of Palestinian displacement. It has experienced periods of expansion and shrinking as it interacted with the surrounding neighbourhoods and state-led urbanisation projects. According to latest statistics, the camp houses over 8000 residents living in 764 housing units² (Abo Sbeih, 2019), yet it remains unrecognised by any official or international entities. The camp's residents have experienced four internal displacements since 1972 and faced the threat of a fifth displacement in 2017 (Abo Sbeih, 2019). As a result, social initiatives were launched to defend the camp and improve the livelihoods of its residents. Departing from Lefebvre's conceptualisation of inhabitants' 'right to the city', this paper examines from a 'critical urban' lens how residents of Al-Mahatta camp experience the city differently, not only compared to local residents, but also to Palestinian refugees living in official camps. It argues that the refusal to recognise the camp by the Jordanian government, the UNRWA, and the Refugee Affairs Department of the PLO maintains the marginalisation of the camp and its residents in the form of unequal access to resources and decision-making processes. It also follows how capital-oriented urban development policies have resulted in several forced displacements, which in turn have instigated various forms of urban contestation among the residents of the camp. Analysing the historical production and several reproductions of Al-Mahatta camp offers a look into the future of 'younger' unrecognised refugee settlements in urban areas. It offers an empirical example of how over 75 years of interaction between policies and economic forces shape the social production of similar improvised urban spaces. The residents of Al-Mahatta camp are partners who co-shape this research with their generous contributions and engagement. They share their experiences and insights via a multimodal of participatory methods such as 'community walks', where they point out significant locations and discuss issues they face in different areas of the camp. This is followed by 'participatory mapping sessions' where key resources, areas of concern, and further key elements of spatial dynamics are identified and documented. The participants' contributions not only maintain their voice but also their agency as they engage in 'participatory action planning' processes to prioritize future courses of action and policy recommendations. This paper is an effort to document the experience of Al-Mahatta camp and an invitation for further collaboration among scholars who work with similar spatial dynamics around the world.

Palestinian Refugees and Politically Unacceptable Solutions

Michael Kagan (University of Nevada)

Since 1948, the Palestinian refugee crisis has been complicated by the normal primary solutions being deemed politically off limits by powerful governments. While repatriation is normally seen as the primary and preferred "durable solution," for Palestinians it is deemed off the table. This presentation will use the 2024 Gaza War to examine how nationalist struggles impede knowledge production and debate relating to refugees. The 2024 Gaza War has accelerated and expanded the phenomenon of certain questions relating to Palestinian refugees being deemed off limits for inquiry and debate. This can be seen on multiple fronts. First and most prominently, expansive definitions of antisemitism have

been deployed by governments and in academia that declare off-limits major areas of inquiry relating to Palestinians. This includes criticism of the way in which the State of Israel came into being and its close connection with the expulsion of Palestinian refugees. It now also extends to measures aimed at helping refugees in exile through UNRWA. At the same time, and with opposite political valence, fears that Israel is deliberately seeking to expel Palestinians from Gaza has made it difficult to argue that Egypt must let Palestinians cross its border to seek safety, although doing so should be a routine application of the principle of international refugee law. The central focus of this presentation will be the application of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's "working definition" of antisemitism, which includes, "claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor," "denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination," and "requiring of [Israel] a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation" as forms of antisemitism. These provisions potentially cut off major lines of inquiry that are central to the Palestinian refugee situation. However, the presentation will make a broader argument about the way nationalistic claims can be used to cut off inquiry on refugee questions that connect closely with competing national claims to self-determination. The author has previously written seminal articles and essays on Palestinian refugees' right to return and property restriction and on the mandates of UNRWA and UNHCR vis-à-vis Palestinian refugees.

**This presentation will be the oral version of an essay for publication. It will follow up and expand on a 2006 essay on Palestinian refugees and the concept of politically-preferred solutions.*

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 6
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 56

Knowledge: Stateless Refugees

IASFM20 New Panel 21

Urban refugees beyond legal recognition critical perspectives for an ethnography of asylum, from the Syrian refugeehood in Lebanon

Leila Drif (University of French Polynesia)

The aim of this paper is to address the issue of the grey area of protection for non-status refugees in national settings, where refugee status is not recognized, apart from the UNHCR. It questions the growing gap between hospitality as an ethic of asylum in hosting countries of the Global South, and the legal approach of refugee law, based on a deterrence paradigm of asylum, in the Global North (Chatty, 2013). In this regard, Lebanon is an interesting case to study, as the country hosts the most refugees in the world in proportion to its population (Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, 2020), but without recognizing the International Convention on the Status of Refugee, nor applying a domestic law on this subject (Janmyr, 2018). How, then, do Syrian refugees access forms of protection, outside legal structures? What does this protection mean, in a context when it mainly relies on civil society, via the legal system of kafala (sponsorship)? What is the experience of refuge, in relation to hospitality, and how is it navigated? The empirical basis of the work presented rests on an in-depth ethnography of Hayy-Gharbe, a small informal settlement at the edge of municipal Beirut, grouping Syrian refugees as well as other vulnerable populations, living at the margin of the city. Additionally, data comes from investigations conducted within aid institutions, oral history, and spatial analysis.

I take an urban-grounded approach that lies at the intersection between the anthropology of law, forced migration and the urban margins (Bens, Vettters, 2018). I argue that protection does not operate as a norm fixed by legal texts but as a relational practice experienced between refugees and host communities and embedded in urban space. What is at stake, more broadly, through this case study is firstly, to show the relationality between legal and non-legal spaces of refugee law protection, through a process of privatization of asylum (Darling, 2016) represented by the sponsorship system of kafala. And secondly, to understand how the "right to protection" is experienced and reconfigured "from below", by the refugees themselves within hosting relations, in the field of access to social and residential rights (Pasquetti, Casati, Sanyal, 2019). In that respect, the case study showcases the rising "regional encampment" of refugees (Berg, Knudsen, 2023), whereby refugees are hosted outside the typical institutions providing rights of protection, and underscores how the study of legal, political, urban, economic, social, and moral infrastructures provide a key heuristic tool to understanding how refugees navigate this encampment.

Thinking through refugee law from below using the case study of rescue in Aceh

Martin Jones (York Law School)

Over the last decade and a half, thousands of Rohingya refugees have been rescued by fishermen in Aceh (Indonesia) relying upon the particular political and legal circumstances of Aceh; the broader cultural and political environment; and, the strength of the customary law of hokum adat laot. The case study of rescue in Aceh has important lessons for those of us developing a 'from below', decolonised, fourth world approach to refugee law. Firstly, it forces us to confront orientalist assumptions about the nature of law and legal systems (which are not completely challenged by

even TWAIL critiques). Secondly, it centres the agency and independence of actors within local and indigenous legal systems (going deeper than the 'whole of society' approach currently in vogue). Thirdly, it points towards the greater use of range of non- traditional interventions in support of refugee protection (including cultural activities).

Can Cities Solve Statelessness?

Jade Roberts (Melbourne Law School)

The dominant approach to addressing statelessness, reflected in the UNHCR's *Global Action Plan to End Statelessness by 2024*, views the stateless as legal anomalies; exceptions to the principle that every person is linked to at least one state through a nationality. In this view, the problem of statelessness can be solved by states through the grant of nationality. However, this approach has a number of problems, including low levels of political will among states to end statelessness through the grant of nationality. Because of these problems, the goal of ending statelessness by 2024 will not be met. This paper explores an alternative approach to conceiving of and addressing the issue of statelessness. In this approach, cities – not states – are called upon to address statelessness through the extension of city citizenship schemes to the stateless. This paper draws on the growing body of literature on the value of city citizenship for undocumented or irregular migrants and explores the application of these findings to stateless residents. I argue that city citizenship can provide an essential status and identity document to stateless residents, allow access to city services and thus essential rights, and can offer a sense of membership at the local level, in a way that makes up for the lack of national citizenship. I suggest that arguments for the justification of city citizenship based on the need or vulnerability of city residents are even more compelling in the context of statelessness. Significantly, the autonomy that cities have demonstrated on immigration policy suggests that cities may be able to circumvent the lack of political will among states to grant nationality to stateless people living with their territory. However, the value of city citizenship for stateless residents depends upon the degree of devolution of competencies to the municipal level. These findings have implications for the global efforts to address statelessness. They suggest that global efforts to address statelessness should be reorientated from an exclusive focus on states to include cities as important actors. Additionally, the inclusive approach to membership demonstrated by cities, based on habitancy or residency in a locality, could inspire rethinking of the basis for membership of a states, in a way that remedies the exclusion that is the cause of statelessness.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 7
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 57

Mobility of Rohingya in Southeast Asia

Hafsar Tameesuddin (Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network)

The Rohingya crisis, centred in Myanmar's Rakhine State, continues to pose profound challenges and dire human rights and humanitarian concerns. As the situation evolves, the travel routes charted by the Rohingya, particularly their maritime movements, have come under intense scrutiny. This panel will delve into the multifaceted issues surrounding these journeys, highlighting the inherent protection risks from their departure points in Myanmar to their destinations in Indonesia and Malaysia, and the conditions they face upon disembarkation within host societies. Firstly, the panel will address the evolving situation in Rakhine State and Bangladesh, examining the push factors compelling the Rohingya to undertake perilous sea voyages.

The discussion will highlight the dangers of these maritime routes, including exploitation by smugglers and human traffickers, hazardous sea conditions, and the lack of access to basic necessities during transit. This segment will set the stage for a comprehensive understanding of the Rohingya's dangerous journey and the urgent need for regional cooperation and political will to ensure safe and legal pathways for migration. Next, panelists will consider the socio-political and economic challenges within host societies, assessing how these environments influence the Rohingya's ability to integrate, enjoy their human rights and access services. Attention will be given to the legal and social frameworks in Indonesia and Malaysia, scrutinising their efficacy and identifying gaps in protection, support mechanisms and livelihood opportunities. The discussion will further expand to encompass the Whole of Society approach in addressing the Rohingya crisis and identifying solutions. This approach advocates for the meaningful and long-term involvement of multiple and diverse stakeholders, including governments, UN agencies, civil society, the private sector and, importantly, local communities in crafting comprehensive and sustainable solutions. A core principle of APRRN is meaningful participation of people with lived experience which is intentional and diverse.

The panel will explore collaborative efforts and best practices that have emerged, advocating for increased cooperation and resource-sharing to address the crisis holistically. Further examining the existing frameworks and mechanisms, the panel will evaluate regional responses to the Rohingya crisis. This segment will explore both formal and emerging parallel track mechanisms, assessing their effectiveness in providing protection and support. The discussion will aim to identify impactful initiatives and propose the development of these parallel mechanisms to address current gaps and enhance the overall regional response.

Finally, the panel will engage on the concerns regarding the rising levels of misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech in Southeast Asia. The pervasive spread of false information exacerbates the plight of the Rohingya, fueling discrimination, abuse and violence. Panelists will discuss the impact of these phenomena on public perception and policy-and decision making, highlighting the need for robust countermeasures and public awareness campaigns to counter misinformation and promote social cohesion. This panel aims to provide a comprehensive examination of the Rohingya crisis, emphasising the importance of a coordinated regional approach and the need for innovative solutions to ensure the protection and integration of the Rohingya. By fostering a deeper understanding and encouraging collaborative efforts, this panel seeks to

contribute to the ongoing discourse and drive meaningful action in addressing one of Southeast Asia's most pressing human rights and humanitarian crises.

Speakers:

1. Hafsar Tameesuddin (Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network)
2. Chris Lewa (The Arakan Project)
3. Brian Barbour (Act for Peace)

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 8 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 58

‘Negotiating exclusion and belonging within higher education’ (Part 1)

Rebecca Murray (University of Sheffield)

We are currently witnessing continuing global ‘crises’ resulting in, according to UNHCR (2023) estimates, the displacement of 108.4 million people worldwide – this number has doubled over the course of the last decade. In line with increasing numbers of people migrating as the result of displacement, the importance of this group gaining access to, as well as inclusion in higher education (HE), has risen up the global agenda. This is evident in UNHCR’s ‘15by30’ programme, which has set itself a target to increase the number of refugees in higher education from 3% to 15%, by 2030 (contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 4 of ‘lifelong learning opportunities for all’). In the post-2015 period, inspired by events in Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine and Palestine, higher education is increasingly prioritised as a practical response to displacement. Responses include initiatives designed to facilitate access to commence, continue or validate existing qualifications, in addition to the extension of sanctuary initiatives that aim to create spaces of *safety* and *welcome* across urban cities and spaces, specific to this research cluster and panel discussion, higher education institutions. The first panel delivered by the IASFM ‘Education, Displacement and (Im)mobility’ research cluster, will explore the processes of bordering, racialisation and de/bordering which serve to perpetuate the challenges and exclusion from HE of certain groups, while enabling access to others. We use the term bordering to describe both the everyday bordering practices (Yuval Davis, Wemyss and Cassidy 2017; 2019), and also the complex and multi-faceted sets of policies, processes and practices at institutional and national levels. Our panel brings different contexts (UK, Brasil, Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon) and intersectionalities into dialogue to explore how organisations and refugees transgress borders to forge pathways into HE.

Racialised borders and the construction of deservingness in UK higher education

Linda Morrice (University of Sussex)

With a few recent exceptions there has been relatively little attention to the construction of racial difference in refugee education. This contribution explores how practices of bordering shape access to higher education in the UK, and how these practices are shown to be diverse and malleable in relation to some groups, who are classified as deserving and worthy, while others are constructed as unsuitable, ineligible and excludable. In opening up this discussion the contribution aims to highlight how ‘seemingly facially neutral’ shifts in policy and practice are entangled with race and racial proxies (Achiumbe 2022), and to question whether the emerging discourse of extensive *debordering* of HE for refugees reveals the whole story, or if we are witnessing the reinforcement of racialised bordering, elevating Whiteness as an explicit border.

Colonial Legacies: Unpacking Coloniality within Bordering Practices in Brazilian Higher Education

Marcela Gola Boutros (University of Sussex)

In recent decades, an increasing number of higher education institutions in Brazil have actively responded to issues of displacement. Initiatives have included facilitating refugee access to courses and supporting their permanence within the academic system, thereby enhancing the likelihood of

their successful academic progression. These actions are vital in fostering inclusivity and achieving humanitarian goals. However, social dynamics resulting from Brazil's colonial history play a pivotal role in perpetuating bordering practices. These practices hinder refugees of certain backgrounds, as well as some nationals, from accessing HE or sustain exclusionary measures even for those who succeed in accessing it (Fonseca, 2009; Rodrigues, 2021; Segato, 2022). This discussion aims to underscore how colonially-based bordering practices in HE obstruct affirmative actions from reaching their full potential. Additionally, it prompts reflection on the diverse ways in which different groups may experience the outcomes of such actions.

Places and Modalities of Higher Education: Stretching Borders in Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt

Hiba Salem (University of Oxford)

For many refugee youth, access to higher education can either stretch border boundaries or reinforce immobility within nation-states. Building on a study with forcibly displaced students from Syria and from Palestine, this study examines how access to higher education across Jordan, Lebanon, and Egypt takes place through multiple modalities – online and in person – within and outside of camps. It will engage with how young people perceive the merits and limitations of higher education in relation to their wider socio-political rights and opportunities. The discussions will share the ways in which young people use their access to higher education to negotiate varying levels of bordering that they experience, focusing on how different modalities and sites of learning influence the ways in which young people imagine their trajectories within and outside of nation-states.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 9 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 59

Approaching Displacement with Creative and Designerly Methods (Part 1)

Malé Luján Escalante (University of the Arts London: London College of Communication)

Asylum seekers, refugees, forcible displaced and stateless people, document-less and people in-transit, hereinafter referred to as displaced people, are forced to leave their country of origin to seek protection in either a transit or destination country. As of 2024, a total of 130.8 million people have been forcibly displaced, (UNHCR, 2024). So called “developing” countries hold around 86% refugees and two-thirds of them are residing in urban settings (Kirbyshire et al., 2017). Refugees are subjected to foreign policies, regarded as victims of external conflicts, vulnerable, passive agents, when on the contrary, displaced populations are becoming at home within the host country and transit country, and could actively be agents of the changemaking required in countries to respond to the interconnected crises we experience. This track will enable us to share knowledge and experiences, using creative and designerly practices and methods to transform narratives from what displaced people lack and to inform discourses of what displaced people bring to their host and in-transit communities. We are particularly interesting in fostering up to date conversations, and share emerging methods, tools, and good practice cases of application methods, tools and interventions to make communities using creativity, arts, design and playful methods.

Specifically we are welcoming projects or practices exploring cross-disciplinary approaches that have experimented with creative approaches and other ways of knowing, Pluriversal approaches (Luján Escalante & Mortimer, 2022), sustainable and inclusive futuring methods, Transition Design Design for Justice and networks of care, and in general approaches to research and innovation that denounced the complicity academic system of knowledge with colonialism (Angelon & van Amstel, 2021), anthropocentrism (Forlano, 2016), and other forms of oppression. We are particularly interested to learn and listen from pluriversal design (Noel, 2020; Escobar, 2018), feminist designs (Bardzell, 2010), design justice (Costanza-Chock, 2018), multispecies design (Westerlaken, 2020), Utopia as Method (Levitas, 2013) designing for liberation (Jack & Tuli, 2021), and designs of the South (Gutiérrez Borrero, 2015), and approaches that aim to shift design research from denouncing to announcing new realities. Our projects and experiences that while are not directly informed by theoretical framework have deployed creativity to research that bring people together via creativity and collective art practices: including performative, visual, conceptual, irreverent, vernacular, and pleasure practices (Luján Escalante et al., 2021). We are of the believe that the changes required by everyone in society are so complex, that knowledge practices most include personal inner work, we are welcoming submissions that are exploring how creativity align with spiritual connection, political activation and embodiment. We seek to assemble a collection of work that transcends theoretical discussions to demonstrate methods in practice and experience of contextual applications, that can directly contribute to the wicked global challenges that are helping to define this moment in history.

Crafting belonging and altering narratives: reflections on a creative participatory photography project with individuals seeking sanctuary in Tyneside

Melisa Maida (Northumbria University)

This paper reflects on a participatory photography research project developed with a group of individuals seeking sanctuary in Tyneside, north of England during my doctoral research fieldwork in

2022. Using photography, participants depicted a range of themes and emotions that represented what was important and meaningful to them as they forged a new life and developed new relationships with people and places, strategies and dreams in the area. These images were used to create accordion books of belonging to display their own narratives, experiences, and histories. These books were exhibited in two sites in the area, which were accessible to wider public audiences. Their creative work illustrates refugee's self-representations about how they are rebuilding transnational lives and a sense of belonging and home whilst experiencing state-enforced precarity, uncertainty and everyday exclusions. In this paper, I will explore insights and reflections on the possibilities that participatory creative practices can offer to bridge understanding between communities and to provide a platform in which those experiencing precarious and transitional migratory lives can explore and voice their stories, identities and realities. I will also showcase the project's co-created visual artwork and include interview excerpts from participating refugees to contextualise their visual narratives. This paper indicates that this type of collaborative creative practice can uncover more humane and intimate accounts of everyday refugee lives which can disrupt predominant narratives associated with the UK's so-called refugee 'crisis'.

Intersectional Lexicon: Found Object Typography Workshop to Manifest Refugee Identity in Building Collective Resilience

Aulia Akbar, Al Muhamat Fatahudin Saifudin, and Fabian Akhmad Sembiring (Institut Teknologi Bandung)

Refugees have various challenges in many aspects, one of which is regarding identity. Refugee identity is very complex and is not only built by internal factors such as language, feelings, beliefs, ethnic and cultural traditions but also by various external factors, such as resettlement practices, forced migrant policies, cultural traditions, and the economics, political and social conditions of their new host country (Hein, 1993; Capo Zmegac, 2007; Holt 2007). From the various conditions that refugees go through, they will experience a process of identity reformation, a component that they previously did not have to consider while living in their country of origin. It is from this process that many psychological problems related to the labels they bear often form a terrible stigma on how they see themselves in society, as well as getting misinformed viewpoints. As a result, many refugees feel unable to actualize themselves and express their identity through the typical phases of life that need to occur naturally as human beings and social creatures. One of the most critical identity devices that also stores personal memories about humans is found in language, names, and their most essential units, letters. Letters or writing, such as in a name, store meanings external observers can identify as referring to a context or identity. Apart from that, letters and names are universal things that all humans have, whether they are refugees or not, and a name is something humans leave behind after they die. However, due to injustice and lack of strict policies regarding refugees in this world, many of those who have died are not even identified and appropriately buried, so the refugees' identities are even lost after their death, as in the case of the shipwreck off the coast of Zarzis in Tunisia and refugees who were buried without names on their tombstones. To encourage refugees to continue to bring themselves into a phase that can make them confident that they can continually accept and adapt to their respective identities, as well as because the urgency of writing as an existential action is critical for them to make traces of their lives. Respectively, the idea of an Intersectional Lexicon emerged. Transition Living Lab Workshop: Intersectional Lexicon aims to explore the complexity of the social dimensions of each participant to understand better the power and discrimination they have in a safe space and to be able to discuss the value each has for the intersectional awareness they have had in the past and outlined in a work of manifesto that was mutually agreed upon regarding the ideal world they wish to achieve as an expression of personal identity through found object typography using their items as representatives of a plural identity. Through this workshop,

participants can express the values they uphold and fuse plural values and identities in a manifesto that aims to build collective resilience and a strong sense of identity.

Refugee Transition Network: Shifting Narratives

Malé Luján Escalante (University of the Arts London), Christine Mortimer (Lancaster University), Akino Tahir and Marupa Hasidungan Sianturi (Resilience Development Initiative)

Refugee Transition Network (AHRC International Networking Project -2023-24), aimed to explore value and applicability of Transition Design Framework (Irwin et al., 2015) in the context of urban refugee management, both in London and Jakarta. The project focused on testing assumptions around the kind of local projects (community gardening, or festivals, personal development, creation of spaces, etc.) in which TD could be applied to work collaboratively with displaced people. We were particularly interested in practical methods that allows us not just to engage with communities but to build community, as the one common characteristic of forced displaced people is the lack sense of belonging. One priority of the project was to find an appropriate language to articulate project's ideas within out contexts. From the moment of ideation, the team struggled with vocabulary, for example, we felt that the terms "refugee" or "assimilation", had a political charge and a history that were against the values project. Other keywords of the project were also problematic, by instance "transition" or "system change", were far too academic and even philosophical to be useful to engage with people. Certain terms enter in tension with the frameworks that informed our practice, for example, we were contesting "future" in singular, in favour to more pluralistic and pluriversal ideas of futures, or "sustainable", for more regenerative approaches.

Through discussions with academics across disciplines, public sector practitioners, activists, community-led organisations, and forced displaced people, we identified significant barriers to applying the TD framework methods in ways that engage other disciplines, communities, and forms of knowledge beyond academia. The issues of urban refugee management are not to be solved by localised actions only, but they are interconnected with climate crises, international politics of borders, war and social injustice around the world. We realised soon, that to face our objectives and envision transition actions in the context of the demoralising challenges of the wicked problem, it was required from us a preparation beyond our own academic and professional disciplines; in order to work for transition actions, we needed to support the inner work of researchers and participants, who would confront hope and grief that transition changes involve. In this context the project main outcome was an applicable methodology and language, to nurture the inner work of the changemaker (researchers, community leaders, displaced youth). Utopian Imagination method was piloted in the context of Transition Living Lab, an international student challenge, and in the context of Participatory Design Conference 2024 (Luján Escalante et al.,2024).

This paper will outline Utopian Imagination and the principles that informed the methodology design. The method is fundamentally applying Utopia as Method (Levitas, 2013) which supports future-oriented practices inclusive of diverse ways of knowing beyond academia or what Escobar (2018) proposes as the Pluriverse. Utopia Imagination focuses on decentring the role of the academic expert, as it is concerned with the personal aspects of system transitions. Thereby enabling deep personal connections with our bodies, and with spiritual and political dimensions of change. This principle is aligned and informed by the Inner Development Goals (IDG), which highlight the need for transformative personal skills to support sustainable development.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 11.15–12.45 WIB
Venue : Room 10 (Hybrid room)
Session : Parallel Session 6, Panel 60

**Rethinking Refugee Protection in Non-signatory States: The Case of Southeast Asia
(Book Discussion)**

Susan Kneebone (Melbourne Law School)

This panel celebrates the publication of the book *Refugee Protection in Southeast Asia: Between Humanitarianism and Sovereignty* (edited by Susan Kneebone, Reyvi Mariñas, Antje Missbach and Max Walden, published by Berghahn Books) which provides the opportunity to focus on refugee protection in non-signatory (Refugee Convention) states. The authors of this edited collection by scholars from the region challenge conventional thinking on state responses to refugee protection in Southeast Asia, which largely focus on the non-signatory status of states as evidence of regional rejection of the international refugee protection regime. Instead, this book begins from the proposition that:

Rather than seeing the Southeast Asian region as the perpetual exception and global outlier on refugee matters, it may be more productive to see the region as a necessary starting point for rethinking what refugee protection should be – not just in the region, but also beyond. (Itty Abraham, Chapter 1).

For that reason, the discussion in this panel is focussed on the themes of humanitarianism and sovereignty in non-signatory states, the impact of new global discourses under the Global Compacts which emphasise multi-stakeholder and refugee participation, and the effect of the Compacts on global state responsibility and refugee protection. This panel will interrogate and debate the 'humanitarian' and 'sovereign' responses to refugee protection in Southeast Asia as evidenced by current state and non-state protection practices; the views of refugees and their advocates, the role of non-state actors in refugee protection in Southeast Asia and the dynamics and ethics of refugee protection. It will highlight the faultlines of the international refugee protection regime, namely the tension between the perception of refugees as 'displaced persons' and as a 'problem' of forced migration, and the refugee law concept of the refugee as a rights-bearing individual. From the example of Southeast Asia, the panel will draw out universal lessons for promoting refugee protection in host states and for dealing with host states.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 1
Session : Parallel Session 7, Panel 61

Not just Vulnerable:
Rethinking the concept of "Social Vulnerability" in Forced Migration Research
 Realisa Masardi (Universitas Gadjah Mada)

When introduced into the development aid discourse in the late 1980ies, the concept of "social vulnerability" (Chambers, 1989) served as a nuanced perspective to move away from under-complex ascriptions of poverty to a capacity- and structure-oriented understanding of marginalized populations at risk. However, meanwhile "vulnerability" has become the new "poverty" in social science research and development practice/studies. Over the past three decades, the concept has been examined from multiple disciplinary perspectives, particularly when addressing marginalized populations such as refugees. In humanitarian discourse, vulnerability has been used as a basis for institutional categorization, prioritizing certain groups for assistance and/or protection. Since the 1990s, the so-called Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) has been employed mainly in the context of post-disaster recovery as well as disaster risk reduction and mitigation (GIZ 2022). Subsequently, policymakers, politicians, and service providers in various sectors have adopted the "social vulnerability index" as a tool to categorize their program beneficiaries (see ATSDR n.d.). Thus, the concept of "social vulnerability", by now, has become commonplace in the context of population management and social programs and gradually developed from a useful analytical concept into a social category ascribed to marginalized groups of people. Today, "social vulnerability" is widely perceived as an undisputed label once assigned to, for example, refugees, carrying connotations of powerlessness, the need for protection, and a lack of agency. However, refugees categorized as "vulnerable" often share similar precarity and resilience capacities with those outside these groups.

This panel invites academics and social practitioners to problematize and revisit the concept and categorization of "social vulnerability" within forced migration contexts. The discussions aim to go beyond the "helplessness" discourse, emphasizing the agency of refugee populations in highly adverse settings. The panel will present various empirical findings on the coping strategies, adaptive, and transformative capacities of displaced persons in their respective vulnerability contexts who were displaced by war, persecution, and man-made disasters. On one hand, the presentations will reflect on the politics of social hierarchy and categorization behind the establishment of "vulnerability" criteria, highlighting the structural imbalance between displaced persons and those who manage them. On the other hand, the panel will discuss the perspectives of the people on how they interpret, embody, and even navigate the vulnerability category assigned to them. The panel consists of three speakers who will discuss three different cases of forced displacement: internally displaced persons due to Lapindo mud disaster in Sidoarjo Indonesia, refugees transiting in some cities in Indonesia, and survivors of trafficked migrant workers in Thailand.

Making Ways to Vulnerability: Negotiation of Young Refugees in Dealing with the Global Refugee Regime in Indonesia
 Realisa Masardi (Universitas Gadjah Mada)

In many circumstances, young refugees have demonstrated their resilience and creativity in navigating the experience of forced displacement, including participating in international migration. This article discusses the experiences of unaccompanied and separated young asylum seekers from

Afghanistan, Somalia, and Myanmar as they navigate limited asylum protection, humanitarian assistance, and resettlement opportunities available in Indonesia. The discussion elaborates on these youths' efforts to be considered a vulnerable group deserving of priority humanitarian assistance and resettlement. Among all transit refugees in Indonesia entitled to protection, there exists a hierarchy that prioritizes those deemed most vulnerable. Young refugee men, who are often at the end of the vulnerability spectrum, need to demonstrate their vulnerability to appeal to humanitarian organizations for prioritization. The methods to navigate vulnerability are diverse: at times, they must put themselves in vulnerable positions, sometimes they must act vulnerable, and they also negotiate with the refugee management system. In the presentation, I will discuss how the youths' tactics can be seen as entrepreneurial skills (Kumsa 2006) or even as a form of resistance (Schechter 2004) as they encounter the culture of disbelief (Jubany 2011) prevalent in the global refugee management system. The data for this article is based on my doctoral multi-sited ethnography fieldwork conducted in 2016–2017, with additional data collected from 2020–2022. The discussion contributes to the understanding of how vulnerability criteria affect the movements of refugees and asylum seekers, and how youths, with their agentic capacity, try to negotiate these criteria in hopes of finding a better future.

“My kampung was not like this before”: Vulnerabilities/resiliencies of Lapindo mudflow victims/survivors

Anton Novenanto (Universitas Brawijaya)

The presentation stems from a personal, academic, and activism interactions with survivors of Lapindo mudflow in East Java for over two decades. Named after Lapindo Brantas, a mining company blamed for triggering the eruption, the mudflow has become a landmark of the dynamic of socio-nature system in Indonesia (Drake 2017). Erupting since 29 May 2006 up until now, the mud volume reached 180,000 m³/day (Davies et al. 2011). It created an artificial mud lake occupying an area of more than 1,500 hectares covering 15 villages in three districts (Porong, Tanggulangin, and Jabon) in the Sidoarjo regency. There is no exact number of how many people who had to flee from their homes. According to a report of the National Commission for Human Rights (*Komnas HAM*), it has forcibly displaced 40,000 to 60,000 inhabitants of those villages. In this presentation I will focus on two different victim groups: 1) they who have displaced to various destinations; and 2) they who are still living surrounding the disaster zone. Environmental disasters are potential life-changing events for these people. On the one hand, disasters could interfere with many systems that have existed in society so far. On the other, disasters may open spaces for people to experiment with alternative systems that can be helpful as coping mechanisms. In this presentation, I would like to center the discussion on the tensions between “vulnerability” and “resiliency” of disaster victims. Instead of seeing victims as powerless, this presentation would like to present them as resilient agency in overcoming various issues arising from dealing with problems of disconnection from socio-cultural ties with their original home and of adaptation in new relocation places.

Addressing Vulnerabilities of Migrant Workers through Anti-Trafficking Action in Thailand

Kaito Takeuchi (JICA Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development), Tatsuya Hata (Shanti Volunteer Association)

Migrant workers account for a large proportion of global migration flows, with an estimated 69% of the working age population of international migrants. Migrant workers move across international borders in search of economic opportunities, and many of their destinations are in urban areas that offer more favourable employment prospects. Amongst the numerous challenges and concerns that migrant workers may encounter when seeking employment in host countries, human trafficking and

forced labour are two particularly serious risks. The potential for adverse outcomes is particularly pronounced when the migration process is conducted in an unsafe and undignified manner. Trafficking in persons and forced labour both result in forms of forced migration that severely restrict the agency and freedom of movement of migrant workers. The presence of migrant workers in urban areas represents a significant and increasingly prevalent phenomenon that attracts greater attention in the study of forced migration. Thailand has been a cross roads for migration in Southeast Asia. Alongside the national policy to boost country's economic growth especially since late 1980's to 1990's, Thailand became the largest destination for migrants in the sub-region, attracting, among others, many migrant workers and their families from Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar (CLM). As of May 2024, the total of 3,015,459 CLM migrant workers registered through official processes, including national verification, MOU, One Stop Service Centre, and Cabinet resolutions. However, different migrants also adopt different means and conditions of entry into the country, driven by a variety of factors, including political and economic causes, disasters and environmental factors, and include cases of kidnapping and other forms of force and coercion. With traffickers exploit their vulnerable migration status, resulted in some of them have experience of being victims of trafficking and forced labour. In 2014, a significant human trafficking case was uncovered in the fishing industry. Subsequent rescue operations, conducted in collaboration with the Thai and Indonesian governments, international organisations and civil society organisations, resulted in the protection of over 3,000 individuals. Since that time, a number of measures have been implemented by the Thai government and civil society organisations also in cooperation with international organisations, with the objective of ensuring the safe, ordinary, and regular migration of individuals. The government and civil society organisations have implemented a range of measures to address the risks associated with trafficking, including actions related to the inherent vulnerability of migrant workers such as legal status, working environment, and community networks. This presentation will introduce a case study of anti-trafficking actions for the protection and empowerment of migrant workers in Thailand, with a particular focus on attempts to mitigate the vulnerability of migrant workers in urban settings. Furthermore, beyond the conventional notion that migrant workers are motivated by voluntary economic factors, the presentation discusses the blurring boundaries between voluntary and involuntary migration in the complex context.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 2
Session : Parallel Session 7, Panel 62

Migration and the everyday forms of 'state': lessons from the Asia Pacific region

Nasreen Chowdhory (University of Delhi)

In the post Westphalian order, the complexities caused by the two world wars in a largely Eurocentric discourse brought considerable changes to the standing of the state in the international legal sphere. This initially discounted the parallel evolution of state with respect to colonialism– the separate, yet simultaneous existence of the imperial state/ colonial state brought about considerable recalibrations and inter linkages between state, subject, membership, and rights. Samaddar, asserts, the intersection of neo-liberal transformation, colonial relations and post-colonial politics has accentuated the ways in which statelessness has caused the huge trans-border movement of populations in South Asia and other regions. Hannah Arendt's legalistic lens suggests that state does not consider stateless worthy to be subjected to any law of the land. Scholars like Blitz see "right to have rights" as a restrictive paradigm that presumes statelessness to be tethered to the reformation of laws on nationality; rather than perceiving statelessness as structural concern. It is imperative to go beyond the dualistic assumptions of citizen/non-citizen, to understand the constitution of everyday state and subsequent impacts and its myriad forms. The reductionism ignores the importance of lived experience of statelessness of many who have legal status of citizenship but struggle for status. This is explicit in the case of de facto statelessness or quasi statelessness due to reduction of rights and access to the city. As seen in Caia Vlieks work, different spatialities in which an individual experiences statelessness causes "in-situ statelessness" within their own country or an ex-situ situation. The papers in the panel will be engaging with varied forms of rightlessness as a concept, while drawing empirical evidences from the Asia Pacific region.

Chair: Ranabir Samaddar, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group

Gender, Statelessness and the City

Paula Banerjee (Asian Institute of Technology's Gender and Development Studies)

The Southern Question often imbricates within itself the question of footloose women in the city. These women are largely migrant/refugee women who come to the city for survival. The city gives them succour but often extracts a price. The migrant women find some menial work in the cities to begin with, but refugee women are usually without any resources and so they are driven to the margins. They take up jobs either in the sex industry or a in any other marginal sector where they can retain their anonymity. In this paper I will site refugee and migrant women in Kolkata and discuss how they use their anonymity for their survival and more. Kolkata has marginal women labourers from other parts of India and the subcontinent and the refugees come as near as Bangladesh and Nepal and as far away as Somalia. In this paper we will portray that notwithstanding the legal status, resource less ness drive these women first to the informal sector and then to statelessness. This paper will also discuss how these women are constantly negotiating with the state and creating spaces of legitimacy in this context of de facto statelessness.

Bangkok as a global city: Negotiating statelessness

Priya Singh (Asian Institute of Technology)

A global city, also referred to as a world city, is a major urban centre that exerts significant influence on global affairs through its strategic geographical location, economic power, cultural impact, and political influence. These cities are pivotal hubs in the global economic system and are characterized by a high degree of cultural and ethnic diversity, attracting people from across the globe for work, education, and tourism. They are well connected both domestically and internationally, with major airports, seaports, and advanced communication networks. Global cities often possess strong civil society organizations, NGOs, and advocacy groups that can raise awareness about the plight of stateless people. These organizations can lobby for policy changes, provide legal aid, and work to integrate stateless individuals into the community. Thailand is home to several ethnic minority groups, such as the Hill Tribes, who historically have faced challenges in obtaining Thai citizenship. Many members of these groups, particularly those living in remote areas or border regions, may lack citizenship documentation, leading to statelessness. Bangkok, as a global city and the capital of Thailand, faces significant challenges in negotiating statelessness, particularly with respect to a sizeable population of stateless individuals, often referred to as “stateless people” or “non-citizens.” The city attracts migrants from rural areas and neighbouring states, many of whom settle in informal urban settlements. These migrants, especially those from marginalized communities, may lack proper documentation and legal status, rendering them vulnerable to statelessness. Bangkok’s status as a regional hub makes it a destination for migrants and refugees from neighbouring countries, such as Myanmar, Cambodia, and Laos, where statelessness is equally prevalent. The paper would attempt to elaborate upon and interpret the myriad ways in which the city of Bangkok intersects with the issue of statelessness.

The ‘end-game’ in refugee cycle: the quest of statelessness of the Rohingya

Nasreen Chowdhury (University of Delhi)

Following Arendt’s notion of ‘the right to have rights’, it is clear that among the refugee community or otherwise ‘stateless’ people, the need to belong is more significant since they lack status and rights. Refugees do not seek ‘national-formal’ citizenship; rather they seek a status-based position in the hierarchy of belonging that would protect their interests from arbitrariness of state officials in interpreting status in exile. Typically repatriated, resettlement or integration is presumed to be the end of refugee cycle. Arguably, the state’s capacity to ascertain individual’s identity in accordance to ‘pre-given criteria’ that does not correspond to his/her awareness of themselves (Amoore, 2009) diminishes the “specific social and spatial practices, understandings of personhood and notions of belonging” (Grünenberg et al., 2022: 212). The idea of subjecting refugees to biometric techno-structure and consequent quasi digital identity impacts the stateless Rohingyas in South Asia. My paper will examine these aspects in relation to the Rohingya context to assert that rendering stateless in their country of origin i.e., Myanmar made them voiceless and their onward journeys to various countries of asylum be in India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia etc., have made them refugee subject. Towards this, the paper will also analyze the various aspects of the end of refugee cycle and its relevance in the context of the Rohingyas.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB

Venue : Room 3

Session : Parallel Session 7, Panel 63

Climate change, human (im)mobilities, and spatial justice: Lived experiences from three coastal and island communities in archipelagic Southeast Asia

Catherine Rose Torres, Christopher B. Estallo (Jesuit Refugee Service Asia Pacific)

Haryani Saptaningtyas (Percik Institute)

Rowena Soriaga (Environmental Science for Social Change)

Anthropogenic climate change and its environmental impacts are amplifying the consequences of unequal economic development and poor development planning on individuals, households, and communities. Coastal and island communities in urban, peri-urban, and rural settings are affected in distinct but inseparable ways as communication and transportation technologies shrink the distance between city and countryside. What is clear is that coastal and island communities, both in urban and rural settings, are bearing the brunt of climate change impacts as warming seas and sea-level rise dramatically increase their exposure to floods and extreme weather. As the livability of these areas is eroded, it generates various (mal)adaptive responses among the inhabitants, including myriad forms of human (im)mobilities, with significant implications for urban and rural areas alike. This panel foregrounds the experiences of three coastal and island communities in two archipelagic countries in Southeast Asia—Indonesia and the Philippines, which are deemed among the most vulnerable to climate change. In Tambakrejo, a coastal fishing village in Semarang City, Central Java, some residents were forcibly relocated due to a river “normalization” project intended to reduce tidal flooding. Thousands of inhabitants of Sayung District, Demak, another “sinking” coastal settlement in Central Java, were similarly displaced. Meanwhile, residents of Nococon, a tiny, remote island in Bohol Province, Philippines face the prospect of displacement as more than two-thirds of their island is projected to be underwater at high tide by 2050. Presented by scholar-activists and informed by participatory action research undertaken with community researchers, this panel explores the links between climate change and human (im)mobilities, examining the lived realities of different groups: from the mobile to the displaced, the willfully immobile to trapped populations. Drawing on innovative methods such as community mapping, it unpacks their experiences using the concepts of vulnerability and resilience, human rights and spatial justice. Factors such as place attachment and place dependence are examined, and other forms of adaptive responses explored, such as livelihood diversification and transformation. The evidence generated by the research, and the empowerment it helped foster among the communities, are a necessary first step in accompanying them as they recover their rights and agency, and reclaim their rightful place, along with other vulnerable coastal and island communities, at the vanguard of climate and DRR policy development and climate action.

Tidal flood and slow onset mobility in an urban community: Case study in Tambakrejo, Semarang, Indonesia

Haryani Saptaningtyas (Percik Institute), Damar Waskitojati, Dwi Cecilia, Singgih Nugroho and Agung Waskitoadi

This paper analyses the various (im)mobilities related to climate change in an urban setting, caused by tidal floods and land subsidence in the coastal area of Central Java. This gradual change in the landscape is caused not only by climate change but also by development around the village that brings heightened vulnerability. The community often experiences the impact of rising sea waters as

well as land surface subsidence, which adversely affect the residential environment and public facilities, and hampers transportation and economic activities. This paper portrays experiences of (im)mobilities to understand community members' motives and intentions to move and analyze modes of (im)mobility, under three typologies: displacement, voluntary mobility (migration), and immobility. A mixed-methods approach is applied to collect data through a household survey, key informant interviews, and community mapping, with an emphasis on a participatory approach in using research for advocacy. It is argued that mobility is part of the urbanization process but has been more deeply impacted by climate change in the community studied. Community resilience is one of the factors of (im)mobility, while livelihood transformation becomes the main adaptive response of the community as they grapple with climate change impacts.

Keywords : tidal floods, climate change, urban setting, (im)mobility

Climate crisis, spatial justice and internal displacement in Sayung–Demak

Hotmauli Sidabalok (Soegijapranata Catholic University), Eka Handriana

This article analyses the internal displacement of thousands of inhabitants of coastal areas of District Sayung – Demak. The condition has been triggered by the sinking of the settlement since the 1990s. Climate crisis and spatial justice are the conceptual lens used to analyse the internal displacement in this area. The following information are collected to describe how the spatial injustice occurs and how the influence of climate crisis exaggerates the condition: 1) whose rights violated in this displacement; 2) by whom they are violated; 3) what kind of migrants' rights are missing and how they are recoverable; 4) who are the responsible parties to the violation; and 5) how the recovery can be done. This description explains the consequences that inhabitants bear. As to the causes of the situation, other influencing factors such as unequal urban planning policies and top-down development are also mapped. Apart from the causes and consequences, this article also describes the responses of inhabitants in dealing with the situation, including internal displacement.

Keywords: climate crisis, internal displacement, spatial justice, tidal, missing land, and Sayung-Demak

Climate vulnerability, displacement risk, and place attachment: Lived experiences of island villages

Rowena Soriaga (Environmental Science for Social Change), Pedro Walpole, Irene Gapay, Maia Binhi Borja and Juan Antonio Sumbalan

Climate change is increasingly identified as a contributing factor to human mobility. Worldwide, new internal displacements due to storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, and extreme temperatures are estimated at 21.9 million annually across the past decade, of which almost half (49%) occurred in East Asia Pacific (IOM, 2023).[1] Our planet is already at around 1.1°C of warming and current climate policies are projected to increase global warming by 3.2°C by 2100 (IPCC, 2023).[2] Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC) is contributing to Research and Advocacy for Climate Policy and Action (RACPA), a five-year project covering the Philippines and Indonesia.[3] RACPA's goal is to increase the climate resilience of coastal and island communities through participatory action research that contributes to community empowerment and policy advocacy for global climate action. Nocnocan Island, a village of Talibon, Bohol is RACPA's community partner in the Philippines. This presentation unpacks the links between climate change impacts and human (im)mobility based on lived experiences of people in Nocnocan Island, documented through community mapping and household surveys that combine social science and geomatics research methods. Since Nocnocan

represents 236 other single-island barangays (villages) in the Philippines, the presentation also explores opportunities and challenges in policies and programs related to climate resilience and human mobility, based on a series of multistakeholder discussions at the subnational and national levels.

Keywords: climate crisis, small islands, sea-level rise, human (im)mobility, resilience

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 4
Session : Parallel Session 7, Panel 64

Knowledge: Subaltern Politics & the Voice 2

IASFM20 New Panel 22

Navigating challenges of older people in displacement: Data, coordination, and engagement with older Filipinos in crises and emergencies

Lisette Robles (JICA Ogata Research Institute)

Displacement, ranging from the temporary to permanent forced movement of people, has been a defining feature of recent large-scale crises and emergencies. Complex and intersecting crises drive people to move within and beyond national borders to ensure their safety and well-being. In recent decades, disasters have increased in frequency and extent, resulting in more catastrophic consequences. The urban spaces, with all their advancements in their physical and social infrastructure, greatly exposed diverse groups of people to heightened risks, including older people. “Older people in displacement,” as a theme, have carved out their niche among scholars and practitioners engaged in understanding the issues surrounding the needs of those vulnerable and often marginalized populations during humanitarian emergencies, especially on the basis of age. Reports on humanitarian actions repeatedly emphasize the importance of ensuring the safety and security of the most vulnerable in humanitarian response. Despite sufficient global instruments and policies to protect older people, especially during crises and emergencies, the gap in implementing adequate and targeted support remains limited. Recognizing the fundamental obligation to provide comprehensive humanitarian assistance for older people in displacement exists. However, it can be challenging to identify how to ensure the needs of older people are adequately met, particularly in areas beyond health-related services. In order to deliver sufficient and comprehensive support for older people in displacement, it is necessary to ensure the visibility of older people in data, coordination, and engagement. This paper examines the existing operational challenges in supporting older people in displacement. It will attempt to understand the challenges in certain operational domains such as data, coordination, and engagement, taking a deeper introspection of the support for older Filipinos in displacement. The Philippines may be a relatively young country in the region and globally, yet the combined projected aging in the country in the succeeding decades and the frequency of insecurities brought by disasters and conflict place older Filipinos at current and anticipated vulnerabilities. Through a qualitative exploration based on combined desk research and key informant interviews with diverse actors engaged with older people in the Philippines during humanitarian crises, the paper will attempt to locate the inclusion of displaced older people in humanitarian programming. By examining their availability of data, involvement in crisis coordination, and their meaningful engagement in addressing their forced move, the paper aims to present that the increased visibility in these domains creates better inclusion for older people in displacement and in reaching their durable solutions.

Rising Waters, Stagnant Paths: Gendered Experiences of Flooding and Restricted Mobility in Can Tho City, Viet Nam

Danang Aditya Nizar (Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law)

Viet Nam’s response to its vulnerability to climate change impacts is marked by the integration of climate change concerns into sectoral laws. The Government of Vietnam has also acknowledged the interlinkages of climate change, gender equality, and mobility within its climate regulatory framework.

However, the focus on climate-related mobility has predominantly centred on macro level mobility, which refers to the broad categorisation of migration, displacement, and planned relocation, with limited attention given to micro-level mobility. This study understands micro-level mobility as the smaller-scale and day-to-day movements which involves individual decisions regarding daily activities, destinations, and modes of travel. Furthermore, challenges remain in translating national commitments into local action, as evidenced by urban flooding in Can Tho City. Complex interactions between political, economic, social, and environmental elements contribute to recurring floods, with a disconnect between central Government commitments and local implementation, resulting in gendered impacts. Women in Can Tho City bear disproportionate impacts during recurring flood events, restricting their micro-level mobility in the household and public sphere. Women's decision to remain during floods resulted from a complex interplay between risk perception, socio-economic elements which contributed to vulnerability, and limited macro-level mobility options. However, at the same time, these women also actively employ strategies to cope with their restricted mobility, which signifies their agency in negotiating the associated risks and adapting to recurring floods. These insights into women's mobility behaviour during flooding offer a valuable starting point for policymakers to integrate gender and mobility, both at macro and micro level, dynamics into concrete climate actions. The findings also underscore the need to pay more attention to micro-level mobility within the climate-related mobility discourse. This study is part of the upcoming edited volume titled "Climate-related Human Mobility in Asia and the Pacific: Interdisciplinary Rights-based Approaches" that will be published in September 2024 by Springer with open access licensing. This initiative is spearheaded by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in partnership with South Asian University and the Asia Pacific Academic Network on Disaster Displacement (APANDD), supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

Shackled in motion: Following the harm-chain of climate migration in Bangladesh using photo-ethnography

Tasnia Prova and Era Robbani (BRAC University), Tahura Farbin (University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh)

[Also at Creative Display Exhibition Room](#)

Extreme weather events haunt the lives of millions in South Asia. As the impact of climate change worsens, ecologically sensitive locations in the region suffer from an increasing number of environmental disasters. Socio-political stability and livelihood opportunities are threatened by floods, cyclones, river erosion, droughts, salinisation of water and soil, heat and cold waves, among other devastating conditions which force thousands out of their homes everyday. According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC), between 2010 and 2021, a total of 61.4 million were displaced within South Asia alone. Climate-induced displacement can cause deep bouts of depravity from the most basic amenities like safe drinking water and water, proper sanitation, shelter and electricity.

In Bangladesh, about 2000 migrants move to the metropolitan city of Dhaka to look for a second start at life everyday, a significant percentage of whom do so for reasons associated with environmental disasters and climate change. As one of the most populated (and polluted) cities in the world, Dhaka manifests itself as a two sided coin for incoming migrants: one representing hope and opportunities, the other depicting struggle and sorrows. Having come to Dhaka looking for respite, but without enough resources, climate migrants find themselves affixed within borders drown by informality. Dhaka's informal settlements grow in size every year and are home to millions of the city's urban poor population. The informal sector in Dhaka has benefitted from this mobility pattern, with more cycle-

rickshaw (three wheeled passenger vehicle) pullers, more day laborers and street vendors, more ready-made garments employees and domestic workers, but with institutions and urban infrastructure being pushed to its limits, the city is nearing a catastrophic tipping point.

In most settlements, sandwiched tin-roofed structures provide the illusion of protection from natural elements, but become inhabitable on hot days, get flooded with sewage water on rainy days, and freeze its residents on cold ones. The climate victims whose livelihoods, land and community were snatched away find themselves revictimized to urban climate impacts: the harm chain of climate change continues.

Service provision is mostly unregulated in the settlements. Low-quality electricity wiring can make the settlements extremely susceptible to fire breakouts that spread fast and wide, water and gas supply face constant disruption, and per square foot rent can be more expensive than the posh areas of the city. The recognition of climate-induced mobility as an adaptation strategy or 'failure to adapt' is a cause for debate in academic spaces, but what remains irrefutable is the understanding that the displaced new-comers of Dhaka become redefined as the most climate vulnerable group in the city. This reality is not new, but with the unprecedented surge of climate impact in Bangladesh, the plight of climate migrants in Dhaka must be presented again in more innovative and engaging ways, both in the form of research and collective advocacy.

If selected for this session at IASFM20, the photo-book that we will be sharing utilises a short photo-ethnography study to collect first-hand community insights, to 'bear witness' to the depleting conditions that millions are forced to grapple with, and to present their stories with the use of visual and written mediums. The methodology does not seek to be perfect in application, but genuine and reflective of ground-level realities. The photo-book is a culmination of 15 stories collected over a six month period, where the researchers used 20 in-depth interviews, 7 focus-group discussion, and self-reflective observation techniques to form data points. Data was then thematically analysed and grouped to strategically uplift key issues identified by respondents, such as, urban climate impacts, access to services, communal habitation, etc.

The 15 stories were transformed into a week-long exhibition at the heart of Dhaka city in March 2024, inviting myriad stakeholders to understand the lives of climate migrants more deeply and to participate in conversations, which would ideally lead to the mobilising of greater resources to support migrant lives. This methodology was always meant to serve as an awareness raising tool, where academics can freely engage with practitioners and their divide is challenged. The stories are nuanced, echoing the lived-experiences of not solely the respondents, but millions more who are subjected to the same depravity. The photos are simple, yet provocative, as they add to the evidence of suffering plunged upon climate migrants in Dhaka. When brought together, they become that much more powerful. At IASFM20, researchers for this project would love to engage with attendees over the uses of this methodology in continuing to tell the tales of climate migrants in urban spaces, and would use what is learned and shared to improve the approach.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 5
Session : Parallel Session 7, Panel 65

Approaching Displacement with Creative and Designerly Methods (Part 2)

Malé Luján Escalante (University of the Arts London: London College of Communication)

Participatory Arts-Based Research Among Refugee Children in Malaysia

Charity Lee (Universiti Malaya)

Malaysia currently hosts over 188,000 registered asylum seekers and refugees as of April 2024, and over 25% of this population are children below the age of 18. The voices of these children and of refugee children around the world remain significantly under researched and often missing from advocacy for intervention and policy changes. This presentation discusses the benefits and potential critical participatory inquiry has in bringing the voices of refugee children in Malaysia to the fore. It begins with a brief description of the refugee aid landscape in Malaysia with regards to the management and education of refugee children and gaps in the existing system and in research methodology. The focus will then be turned to a case study – a participatory arts-based storytelling workshop conducted with unaccompanied Afghan refugee youth – that involved the collection of stories through visual, written, oral and theatrical methods. The presentation will illustrate how a multi-approach analysis framework can be used to analyze such a diverse dataset. The analysis framework draws on approaches from discourse analysis and communication studies, including narrative analysis, multimodal analysis, and Clark’s (2016) theory of depiction. A significant outcome of the study was methodological reflections on the application of iterative informed consent during data collection and the use of arts-based methods to acquire embodied knowledge. The presentation concludes with some reflections and recommendations for further research with refugee children and youth.

Keywords: refugee children, arts-based research, critical participatory inquiry, discourse analysis.

Connecting the Margins: Participatory arts practice in Vilnius centring the Ukrainian experience

Silke Lange (University of the Arts London)

Connecting the Margins was a week-long collaborative educational programme between Central Saint Martins (CSM), Ukrainian Centre (UC) and Vilnius Academy of Arts (VAA). It brought together Ukrainian teenagers to explore urban spaces and related cultural practices in Vilnius, Lithuania – a city many Ukrainians had sought refuge in due to the ongoing military invasion. Having registered over 70,000 Ukrainian citizens since February 2022 with 25,000 being under 18, the war in Ukraine and the widespread displacement caused by the relentless Russian military attacks can be felt in every thread of Lithuanian urban fabric. Amidst the wider challenges of providing consistent psychological, legal and more specifically pedagogical support to Ukrainian communities, particularly younger generations, Ukrainian Centre has been at the forefront of enhancing more meaningful and inclusive integration of Ukrainian refugees into their new physical and social environments.

Established in cooperation with the Ukrainian Embassy and Vytautas Magnus University, the center facilitates cultural, educational and other social opportunities in Vilnius, providing their residents resources and space to learn, connect and share. The participatory programme was co-led by Silke Lange and Markas Klisius (CSM) together with Marija Marcelionytė-Paliukė (VAA), local artists, and staff from VAA and UC. Collectively, they created a structure for participants to experiment with

various art forms whilst developing propositional, technical and communicational skills to creatively reflect on their immediate lived environment. Curated workshops and activities were site-specific and focussed on the Vilnius Central Railway Station; a place of familiar and strange encounters, of arriving and departing, of being in transit. Stitched together by leftovers, fragments, rituals, routines and improvisations that form people's day-to-day realities, these sessions offered an opportunity to create fantastical worlds, tell new stories and propose alternative imaginaries for this site, how it functions and who it belongs to. Through writing, image, sound and other media, participants were encouraged to develop their reflective and propositional skills to observe, read and think creatively about their lived environment.

Throughout the programme participants were invited to combine these different creative practices to develop the stories they wanted to tell. As participants were keen to engage in every stage of the production process, this approach was also applied during the curation of their group exhibition (November 9 – December 8, 2023 at 5malunai gallery in Vilnius) displaying ideas, conversations and playful materials produced throughout the programme. During this session, Silke Lange will share further details about *Connecting the Margins*, as well as reflecting on opportunities and challenges experienced throughout the collaboration whilst working across multiple languages, cultures and disciplines. She aims to create a discursive space which enables meaningful exchange with the audience, hearing about their experiences of navigating collaborative projects of this nature and how to make this kind of work sustainable.

Designed Objects as Catalyst in Visioning Utopia

Meirina Triharini, Amira Rahardiani, Prananda L. Malasan, and Arianti Ayu Puspita (Institut Teknologi Bandung)

In today's complex and unpredictable world, young people, including refugees, play a central role in building strong, resilient, and adaptable communities. Youth refugees are a group of young people who face particular challenges in building their future vision due to unsupportive factors such as language barriers, trauma, acculturation stressors, impartial legal regulations, and so on (Cain & Trussell, 2019; McBrien, et. al, 2017). This study explores the role of objects in facilitating the visioning process within a workshop designed for youth refugees in Indonesia. In general, this workshop aims to provide ways to build a vision to become changemakers within the participants' communities. The conducted workshop adopted the systemic design framework (Systemic Design Framework – Design Council, n.d.) and utopia as method (Yeşilkaya, 2008; Levitas, 2013), which was thoughtfully designed by the facilitator to enhance participants' engagement and ideation. This included visual aids, interactive tools, and media that served as conduits for complex ideas and visions. The facilitator's strategy was to create an environment where these objects could bridge gaps in language, experience, and cultural background, making abstract concepts more tangible and accessible. These designed elements enable participants to envision and realize their potential as leaders and changemakers.

This study focuses on understanding how the objects and media contribute significantly to effective communication, both from facilitators to participants and among participants themselves. The objects are not merely supplementary tools but are integral to the communication and learning dynamics. Key findings show that the objects played a crucial role in various ways and contributed to the expected output. First, they acted as visual anchors, helping participants grasp and retain information. Second, interactive tools, including paper dolls for role-playing kits and personal objects that are composed into a manifesto, enabled experiential learning which fostered a deeper emotional connection to the content, making the learning experience more memorable and impactful.

Moreover, the designed objects and media facilitated peer-to-peer communication, allowing participants to express their ideas and visions more effectively. Objects like paper doll boards and the lexicon manifesto provided platforms for sharing thoughts and feedback. This not only democratized the ideation process but also ensured that diverse perspectives were heard and valued. The findings highlight the importance of incorporating well-designed objects and media into educational frameworks, particularly in contexts involving diverse and vulnerable communities.

Keywords: Youth refugees, systemic design framework, designed object, visioning.

Crafting Your Utopia: A Paper Doll Workshop to Inspire Refugee Empowerment through Art Co-Creation

Muhammad Arfan Achmad, Qonita Afnani Firdaus, and Akhmad Taufiq (Institut Teknologi Bandung)

Refugees in Indonesia face a multitude of challenges, from uncertain legal status to restricted access to essential services. Conventional approaches often fail to recognize refugees' inherent potential for problem-solving through creative thinking and imagination. The mental health issues among refugees in Indonesia are of particular concern, stemming from displacement, trauma, and the task of adapting to a new environment. Depression, anxiety, PTSD, and adjustment disorders are prevalent, yet access to mental health support remains limited. Additionally, stigma surrounding mental health further deters individuals from seeking assistance. This causes refugees to lose motivation in continuing their daily life activities. Transition Living Lab Workshop: Crafting Your Utopia through Paper Doll workshop aims to harness the power of imagination and creativity to inspire participants to explore their potential and strengthen their visions for the future through Bepe-bepean (paper doll) workshop. This workshop encourages participants to collectively build their ideal Utopia. This Utopia is not defined by beauty or sophistication but by the strength and support derived from the diverse visions and capabilities of its creators. Through paper dolls and using stickers, participants envision their lives 10 years into the future, projecting their aspirations not only for themselves but also for their communities and environment.

The collaborative process emphasizes the creation of a shared, supportive future where everyone's strengths contribute to a collective vision. By developing a framework that has 2 steps: Imagining and Creating, combined with co-creation method in the creating step. This workshop activities leverage the imagination and creative thinking of refugees in Indonesia, this co-creation workshop aims to empower them to become active agents in solving their own problems. Through collaborative efforts and innovative approaches, it can empower them to address their own issues, this approach aims to foster self-reliance and resilience within refugee communities. Refugees can build resilient communities and shape their own futures.

Day, Date : Thursday, 23 January 2025, 13.45–15.15 WIB
Venue : Room 6
Session : Parallel Session 7, Panel 66

New frontiers of refugee hosting: relationships and emotions – comparative perspectives

Susan Kneebone (Melbourne Law School)

Although the host community has always been important for the successful resettlement of refugees and displaced persons, it is commonly suggested that the Canadian programme of community sponsorship is an innovative leading example of refugee hosting through sponsor-type arrangements. Yet over the last decades, and especially since the twin emergencies of Syria and Rohingya refugees in 2015, new approaches to hosting refugees influenced by, but not replicating, ‘the Canadian model’ have emerged in other resettlement countries. For example, community sponsorship which started in the UK as a response to the Syrian refugee emergency has developed in Europe, to enable distribution of refugees away from major cities to local \ regional areas. Since then, following the work undertaken by the Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative (GRSI), led by the Canadian government with UNHCR and other non- governmental organisations, whose remit was to support Governments globally to engage in sponsorship, other countries have developed sponsorship programmes. As a result, other traditional and non- traditional resettlement countries have engaged in various arrangements which encourage more resettlement, through the introduction of complementary pathways and public-private relationships to protect refugees and migrants. These initiatives offer new approaches to respond to the calls made in the 2018 Global Compact for expanded solutions This panel examines the knowledge and practices around other non-Canadian approaches, including countries which are ‘traditional’ resettlement countries such as Australia and New Zealand, and other countries including the UK, Poland, and Indonesia which are not. It will examine developments such as the Humanitarian Corridors movements in Europe, city sanctuary movements in the US and developments in refugee hosting of Ukrainian refugees in Poland. The common feature of these arrangements is the existence of a public-private relationship between refugee policy makers (typically the sovereign government but also UNHCR), the host community, and the refugees themselves.

The panel will consider the following questions:

- What is the state of knowledge about hosting and sponsorship-type approaches outside of Canada?
 - How do sponsors and hosts view asylum? As a religious or secular act? That is, as providing sanctuary, or resistance to hostile policies, or as providing protection for humanitarian reasons? Or as an act of hospitality and if so in what sense?
 - What role do emotions play in individual and collective decisions in hosting communities? What are these emotions and their consequences?
 - Do attitudes to refugees in hosting communities depend upon the extent of acculturation \ integration of the refugees into the host community?
 - To what extent do sponsors and \ or host communities express solidarity through collective action (to challenge or support state authority) through community practices?
 - Do attitudes of host communities depend upon location and resources (for example, rural versus urban)?
-

Community Sponsorship and Complementary Pathways: global movements for resettling refugees driven by local actors

Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham)

The ongoing global displacement emergency characterised by increasing numbers of forced migrants needing refuge has prompted the exploration of alternative solutions to traditional refugee resettlement programmes prompted by the Global Compact for Refugees and often inspired by the Canadian Private Sponsorship model. Community Sponsorship and Complementary Pathways are the two main approaches which have emerged as innovative responses to enable refugee resettlement. These initiatives often involve partnerships between the state and civil society and potentially the private sector. They build on years of experience from Canada but do so in ways that are specific to their own social, economic and geographical contexts. This paper contributes to the study of these initiatives as they emerge outside of Canada by establishing the state of knowledge on Complementary Pathways and Community Sponsorship. Through a systematic literature review of peer-reviewed research on these programmes, we set out what is known, identify research gaps and outline a future research agenda. The review describes and synthesises works written in English, French, Portuguese, Spanish and Italian, focusing on initiatives introduced outside Canada published post-2015 refugee 'emergency'. It finds that whilst there is growing knowledge about the role of authorities and about the relationship between initiatives and international law, many gaps in knowledge remain. Some scholars have examined approaches to implementation and the extent to which programmes meet their objectives. Other scholars have considered the roles of emotions and power, focusing on host/guest relations and the problems that have emerged following implementation of new programmes. Some trends in scholarship have emerged including examining the ways in which sponsorship plays out in different contexts, the effect that different approaches have on refugees' ability to integrate and on 'host' communities' attitudes to refugees. It argues that more longitudinal research is needed to explore outcomes and more knowledge is needed about the volunteers who support the implementation of programmes. Future studies might also focus on how engagement with sponsorship or pathways shapes social network development for refugees, volunteers and other stakeholders. More attention might be paid to discrimination and racism, how these shape programmes, choices of 'deserving' refugees and refugee experiences and opportunities once in refuge. Finally, there is a need for stronger theorisation of both sponsorship and pathways.

Keywords: Community Sponsorship, Complementary Pathways, refugee resettlement, scoping review, knowledge gaps.

Emotional processes in homestay encounters between Polish hosts and Ukrainian forced migrants

Aleksandra Grzymala-Kazłowska and Anna Skiba (University of Warsaw)

In the context of increasingly limited, conditional, and temporary reception and support of refugees, community sponsorship is often promoted as private-public programmes in which community and government work in partnership in resettling refugees. However, this paper focuses on more informal civic responses, namely hosting arrangements. This paper discusses different emotions arising in and from homestay encounters involving Poles offering accommodation to Ukrainians fleeing the war in Ukraine. We are adding to the existing knowledge of homestay support for refugees and community sponsorship by providing an in-depth analysis of the recent phenomenon of private reception and support of Ukrainian forced migrants in Poland. We develop Collin's underused notion of emotional energy to better understand the complexities of emotions during homestay encounters and their consequences going beyond the hosting situation, not only in terms of the relationship between those involved but also in terms of changes in attitudes, motivations and agency. Our paper draws on 62 longitudinal interviews conducted with Polish hosts and 23 with supported Ukrainian refugees

between April 2022 and August 2023. Our study links a temporal dimension and three levels of analysis: micro (individual), mezzo (group), and macro (society). We examine how encounters produce high and low emotional energy, extending beyond the helping situation and having diverse impacts on those involved. We will argue that the crucial importance for the relationship during homestay encounters and its consequences reflect not so much the differences and similarities between the sides involved but rather a willingness by both parties to be involved in interaction rituals and to adjust to themselves (also on an emotional level). The results demonstrate the significance of expectations as well as preparation and support for both sides during homestay hosting.

Keywords: Emotions and refugee protection, homestay support for refugees, Poland, private reception and support

Navigating Emotional Tides: Unravelling the Shifting Attitudes of Acehnese toward Rohingya Refugee (2015–2024)

Atin Prabandari (Universitas Gadjah Mada), Hestutomo Restu Kuncoro (Universitas Pembangunan Nasional "Veteran" Yogyakarta)

This paper aims to investigate the dynamics of host community' perceptions toward refugee populations in the context of Indonesia, a non-signatory country of the 1951 Refugees Convention. It focuses particularly on the significant yet overlooked aspect of refugee protection: namely, the affective undercurrents that shape host communities' attitudes toward refugees. Existing literature on the host communities' perceptions toward the refugee population emphasise factors such as economic impact, security concerns, and policy measures as the main drivers behind the dynamics of host communities' responses. Going beyond such traditional factors, this paper will contribute to the existing scholarship by exploring the significant yet underappreciated role of emotions in mediating host community' reception and rejection toward refugees. This study posits that emotional responses, when interwoven with cultural and societal contexts, are key determinants in shaping these attitudes. This paper will do so by drawing on a range of sources including existing scholarly literature, media reports, and official documents. The article will particularly focus on examining the Acehnese community's shifting responses toward Rohingya refugees since the Andaman Crisis in 2015 until recently (2024), providing a rich context for analysing changes in emotional dynamics over time. By highlighting the affective dimensions of host communities' perceptions, the paper seeks to contribute to existing literature on refugee protection in non-signatory countries in the Global South, offering insights into community responses that could lead to more nuanced policy formulations and better integration strategies. It also aims to contribute to the understanding of the dynamic interplay between emotions and culture in local refugee protection practices.

Keywords: refugee integration, host community perceptions, collective emotions, humanitarian policy

Sponsors' motives in community resettlement in New Zealand and Australia: A tale of communities

Susan Kneebone (Melbourne Law School), Anthea Vogl (UTS Faculty of Law)

This paper compares the motives and emotions of sponsors under community sponsorship programmes for refugee resettlement in New Zealand and in Australia, to demonstrate how they reflect an understanding of 'community' in the context of each programme. It is based on extensive data including interviews, collected in Australia and New Zealand. Specifically, the paper discusses the Australian Community Support Program (CSP 2017–) and compares it with the New Zealand

Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship (CORS) scheme. It argues that whilst sponsors have diverse motives and may express different emotions which reflect their personal life experiences and situation, sponsors are overall motivated to assist in refugee resettlement as an expression of individual and collective agency in the context of their 'community'. Community, though is not understood in isolation from the state or government resettlement programs. That is, through a comparison of programmes in New Zealand and in Australia, it argues against the view that an effective public-private partnership is the most important aspect of successful community sponsorship. The comparison between Australia and New Zealand is appropriate because of certain shared characteristics of the two countries: both are settler nations with established policies on multiculturalism and diversity, albeit with different trajectories in relation to indigenous issues. In New Zealand for example, sponsors are required to foster knowledge of Māori culture for the sponsored and Māori sponsors are involved in the programme. This is not the situation in Australia in relation to indigenous knowledge or sponsors. We argue that the New Zealand CORS scheme is well-accepted *because* it provides communities with the opportunity to contribute over and above established refugee protection pathways. In New Zealand the CORS scheme operates to allow *both* nominated and UNHCR referred applicants; sponsors in New Zealand readily describe their 2-year commitment as involvement in a 'complementary' scheme as it is additional to both the government's resettlement quota and to the family reunion visa path. For sponsors in New Zealand the fact that CORS has selective criteria (like the Australian program, it is aimed at 'job-ready' English speaking refugees and their families) is seen as a positive factor that encourages integration and community harmony. As one interviewee said "I think that comes down to it being additional to the quota. So I think the line gets blurred if it wasn't, because then it would be doing the role that government had done previously". By contrast the CSP has received a very mixed response from sponsors who work through Approved Partner Organisations (APOs) (Hirsch, A; Hoang, K & Vogl, A (2019)). It has been described as an expensive family reunion programme which moreover is not additional to the government's resettlement quota (Humanitarian Programme).

Keywords: Australia and New Zealand, refugee resettlement, sponsorship programmes, sponsors' motivations and emotions, sponsors' understanding of 'community'

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Knowledge: Rohingya Refugees

IASFM20 New Panel 23

Mass Atrocities against the Rohingya People in Myanmar and its impact on Bangladesh: An Analysis

Minati Kalo (Maitreyi College, University of Delhi)

Bangladesh is one of the important countries facing the problems of Migration, displacements and refugees. At the Same time, Bangladesh is an overpopulated country of South Asia, sharing its borders with India and Myanmar. The Rohingya refugees are the most persecuted minority populations in the World. The decades-long insurgency between the Government of Myanmar and the Rohingya Muslims over matters of religious and ethnic disparity is what set off the racist persecution. After the independence in 1971, Bangladesh has started experiencing the constant refugee flight of Rohingya from Myanmar because of the fear of religious as well as ethnic persecution. The Rohingya people have faced problems of systematic discrimination, atrocities, statelessness and targeted violence in Rakhine State, Myanmar. Such persecution has forced Rohingya women, girls, boys and men into Bangladesh for many years, with significant spikes following mass atrocities and violent attacks in 1978, 1991, 1992, 2016 and they were finally successful in 2017 due to the Myanmar government's brutality that triggered by far the largest and fastest refugee influx into Bangladesh. Bangladesh has mostly welcomed them and provided them a policy on humanitarian asylum and protection under the ad hoc decisions, although there is no statutory law for the refugees. As of December 31, 2023, the UNHCR and the government of Bangladesh had jointly given paperwork to 971,904 Rohingya refugees. More than half (52 percent) are children, while 52 per cent comprise women and girls. Bangladesh is not only densely populated but also poor in terms of socioeconomic conditions. Because of the Rohingya refugees who have been living in Cox's Bazar for decades, Bangladesh is faced with numerous challenges and problems in addition to both positive and negative social, political, environmental, and economic impacts.

The government of Bangladesh is carrying out all of its humanitarian obligations, including providing emergency asylum, but it is eager to get the repatriation process underway as soon as feasible. Refugees are unlikely to return to Myanmar in the future due to political unrest, security issues, and the government's disinterest in the agreement. The Rohingyas' efforts and the internationalization of this issue are also singled out for special attention to comprehend the dynamics of the problem. In essence, it is an issue that shows up on a national, international, and social level in a variety of ways. In addition to being a security, development, humanitarian and moral issue, it now increasingly involves environmental and natural resource issues.

The paper presents significant understanding of the tactics played by the Myanmar government has been using to repress the Rohingyas. It will also analyse the widespread acts of violence and crimes committed against the Rohingya in Myanmar and their prosecution. This paper examines how far the Rohingya issue has affected the country in both positive and negative ways. It also draws attention to the Rohingya people's struggles for humanitarian relief and human rights, as well as the role international community with humanitarian response.

Key Words: Rohingyas, Atrocities, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Prosecution, Discrimination, Humanity.

Collaboration between Host Society with Refugees: Rohingya Refugees in Urban Settings in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

M Mujibur Rahman (Nice Foundation)

Nice Foundation and Tohoku University, Japan jointly did a research study on the collaboration and social cohesion between the host and Rohingya community in the Cox's Bazar. This study aims to assess the views and perceptions of a host community towards refugees to identify factors that facilitate or hinder social integration between refugees and the local population. The Rohingya crisis is one of the most pressing issues in the world. The global community witnessed a humanitarian crisis while the Rohingyas of Myanmar were leaving their home to take refuge in Bangladesh. Initially, it became forcibly displaced but now it become a normal displacement as there are no durable solutions ahead. Social cohesion is indexed by the factors: human security, satisfaction with humanitarian aid, trust in government officials and trust in institutions. The strength of trust in an institution possesses the highest correlation to address institutional cohesion. This displacement in various forms becomes a threat to manage by the government and UN agencies. The correlation issues are shelter, environment, scarcity of resources, education, labour selling, movement, inter-cash, arms conflict, drug trading and mistrust. It shows the intercommunity reconciliation with factors: positive feelings, cultural similarities, intergroup contact and propensity for retribution. Positive feelings show the highest correlation factor for community-based reconciliation. Among the variables of positive feelings, the sympathy of Rohingya community towards the host community reveals the highest correlation also respect and affection are very close and high association respectively with the positive feelings in between Rohingya and host communities. Cultural similarities are revealed as the second highest factor associated with inter-community reconciliation. Similarities of language and behavioural norms between Rohingya and local communities are figured to be highly associated.

Unveiling the Hidden Voices of Rohingya Human Trafficking Survivors in Rakhine State (Myanmar)

Htet Swe (Peace Point-Myanmar)

The primary aim of this study is to examine the situation of human trafficking within the Rohingya community in Rakhine State, access to justice, and assess levels of legal support available for victims of human trafficking, explore the challenges faced by incarcerated Rohingyas, and identify constructive approaches to aid in their life rehabilitation. This research is presented from the perspective of access to justice based on personal narratives and stories, firsthand experiences, direct encounters, opinions, and suggestions of Rohingya individuals who have been victims of human trafficking. This study explores some critical aspects, including Chapter (1) the migration and human trafficking situation, Chapter (2) the challenges and difficulties faced during the trial, Chapter (3) the difficulties and challenges in prison, Chapter (4) the reintegration and rehabilitation of trafficking victims, Chapter (5) the conclusion and recommendations, Chapter (6) the research objectives and methodology.

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‘Negotiating exclusion and belonging within higher education’ (Part 2)

Rebecca Murray, University of Sheffield

The second panel delivered by the IASFM ‘Education, Displacement and (Im)mobility’ research cluster, will effectively build on the first panel, by exploring the central role played by people with experience of displacement, in transforming access to and opportunities in higher education (HE). Forced migrants who are either awaiting an award of settled or who hold no recognized immigration status, are typically categorised as international students, which often has a significant impact on their access to HE. The penalties of international student status include higher university tuition fee tariffs, ineligibility for student funding, compounded by reduced or outright exclusion from employment opportunities. Perceived and actual deficits in the capital held by forced migrants are creatively used to bar or deter access to HE (Murray & Gray, 2021; Villegas & Aberman, 2019). Our aim is to explore strategies of resistance led by forced migrants in the UK, Nigeria, Ghana and Canada. Connecting experiences across the four countries reveal migrant-led enduring commitments to advocacy, building communities of practice and strategic leadership focused not only on creating opportunities in local contexts, but shaping new ways of influencing national and international contexts.

Mapping migrant-led resistance to borders and bordering practices in UK higher education’

Rebecca Murray (University of Sheffield), Daniel Mutanda (University of Exeter)

In 2010, three UK universities publicly promoted the opportunity for a student seeking sanctuary to receive a scholarship that would facilitate access to an undergraduate degree programme. The Access to HE campaign responsible for securing these scholarships was both instigated and delivered by a group of forced migrants determined to break down barriers to study. UK higher education has subsequently been transformed over the course of two decades by grassroots campaigning and advocacy initiatives focused on improving the access, participation and success of students experiencing displacement. This is evident in the exponential growth of sanctuary scholarships, now delivered by an estimated 90 universities, alongside increasing demand for recognition as a ‘University of Sanctuary’- 34 UK universities have secured this title to date. However, advocacy victories have been hard-won in a hyper-politicised context focused on state-led strategies designed to increasingly restrict access to public goods, including those provided by universities. This has resulted in hyper variable responses evident in huge inconsistencies in sanctuary scholarship provision. Significant knowledge gaps exist in relation to the demand for HE from displaced students, in addition to the scale at which this group is impacted by barriers to access and participation in UK universities. Seeking solution to these challenges inspired the ‘(Re)imagining the Higher Education Border’ project: research led by people with experience of displacement and lobbying for students with displacement backgrounds to have equitable access to and inclusion in higher education. This research contributes to existing scholarship through building a unique database of 3,730 advice and guidance queries generated by displaced migrants (2013 – 2023), collected by STAR and REUK (refugee NGOs), to build a picture of the scale at which barriers to HE are experienced across the UK. Presentation of the findings reveal the intersection between sanctuary scholarship provision, the enduring challenges encountered by displaced students and the pivotal role they have played in leading successful advocacy to date.

Access to HE for displaced communities in urban settings – access as a form of resistance to borders and exclusion – access as a form of community building

Tanya Aberman (York University & Toronto Metropolitan University), Paloma Villegas (California State University)

Migrant students’ demands for equitable access to higher education (HE) have increased across the world in the last few decades. In Canada, migrant students have made those demands for years, yet their struggle has remained largely invisibilized, despite Canada’s depiction as a liberal, multicultural and “welcoming” society. HE institutions therefore become effectively bordered – exclusionary spaces that mark migrant students as undeserving of access. The Sanctuary Scholars program, established in 2017 at York University, works to deborder HE to provide pathways for migrant students with precarious immigration status – non-status, refugee claimants, applicants for permanent residence, certain visa holders, etc. In this paper, we focus on the Sanctuary Scholars bridging course, which is designed to support mature students who have been away from schooling for some time and propose that the course becomes a counter space that acts to resist and critique the bordering practices that exclude migrant students from HE. We argue that the course offers more than strategic academic upgrading, contributing to students’ well-being in multilayered ways. The community that develops in the classroom, while temporary, enables students to focus on positive, community building and future-focused connections that are too often withheld from migrants. Our analysis draws from our reflections developing and teaching the bridging course as well as from interview data with migrant students who advocated for such programs and have completed the course over the last five years.

Transforming Adversity into Opportunity: The Role of Universities in Supporting Refugees

Peterkings Ayuk (Luiss University)

Universities have a pivotal role to play in responding to forced displacement and fostering diverse educational initiatives that have the power to transform adversity into opportunity. Higher education responses developed in collaboration with individuals who have experienced displacement, have the power to transform adverse situations through the creation of opportunities. In the Nigerian context, disparities in educational access mirror broader societal inequalities, cantering on price discrimination in university fees by allowing refugees to pay home tuition fees instead of international tuition. However, initiatives designed to promote access to university demonstrate the profound impact universities can have when they choose inclusivity over exclusivity. By offering refugees the opportunity to pay fees at par with nationals, we not only remove financial barriers but also affirm the inherent dignity and potential of every individual, regardless of their circumstances of displacement. Moreover, universities can tailor academic programs to meet the unique needs and aspirations of displaced populations. From language courses, vocational training to flexible learning modalities, these initiatives not only equip individuals with tangible skills but also empower them to navigate complex socio-economic landscapes with confidence and resilience. In this presentation, I’ll reflect on my own higher education journey as a Cameroonian refugee in Nigeria, where I have pursued my own academic ambitions alongside leading advocacy initiatives creating opportunities for the wider refugee population.

Access to Higher Education for displaced youth in Ghana: The role of pre-higher education experiences in navigating the higher education borders

Catherine Lawluy (University of Ghana)

Advocacy and various initiatives for inclusion in education for displaced youth is on the increase. However, access to higher education (HE) remains significantly lower for refugees compared to non-refugees globally, due to financial, documentation, cultural, and language-related challenges (Martin & Stulgaitis, 2022; UNHCR, 2021). This presentation examines the impact of pre-higher education (HE) experiences on displaced youth in Ghana, focusing on how these experiences shape their ability to navigate the borders of higher education. It aims at comparing and uncovering the unique challenges and opportunities faced by two groups of refugee students those who completed high school in Ghana and those who completed it in their countries of origin before seeking asylum. To explore the differences in academic preparedness, cultural adjustment, and resource access, the analysis mainly relies on qualitative interviews. Based on preliminary investigations, refugee students who attended local high schools should have a smoother transition into Ghanaian higher education. This discussion emphasises how important pre-HE educational experiences are in determining the paths taken by displaced youth in higher education, and it offers suggestions for supportive policies and programs that will improve their social and academic integration.

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**Examining Multiple Dimensions Of Statelessness:
 Culture, Education And Refugee Economies**
 Mausumi Mahapatro (Regis University)

This study explores the educational experiences of Rohingya children residing in the Cox’s Bazar refugee camps in Bangladesh. Following the mass displacement due to the Myanmar authoritarian regime’s persecution in 2017, over 700,000 Rohingyas fled to Bangladesh, with a significant portion now living in extremely congested camps. A qualitative baseline study was conducted from March to April 2022, employing semi-structured interviews to gather insights from the Rohingya Children. Key findings indicate that family support, particularly from parents and siblings, plays a critical role in the continuation of education for these children. Despite the challenges such as poor infrastructure, lack of resources, and fear of human trafficking and other dangers, learners expressed appreciation for the practical learning opportunities and supportive facilitators at the learning centers. Caregivers, though often uneducated themselves, significantly contribute to the children’s educational progress. The study also highlights the children’s mixed experiences with mathematics and the varying levels of literacy skills, dependent on their previous educational backgrounds and ongoing support from family members. While learners benefit from the structured environment and practical learning tools provided by different organizations, issues such as overcrowded classrooms, inadequate facilities, and the absence of incentives like school meals were noted as significant limitations. This study provides a comprehensive understanding of the educational landscape for Rohingya children in the refugee camps, emphasizing both the opportunities provided and the challenges faced in their pursuit of education.

Triangular Economy and Economic Lives: The case of the displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh
 Mausumi Mahapatro (Regis University, USA)

Refugee economies are important to understand due to the limits of humanitarianism; despite the scale and intensity of humanitarian activity inside refugee settlements like those scattered throughout southeastern Bangladesh, it is the gaps in such interventions that compel displaced persons to seek out alternate pathways to cope. The focus of this study is to foreground refugees and stateless persons as economic actors with economic relations of exchange that extend far beyond refugee camps and surrounding areas. In the absence of a formal right to work in Bangladesh, the primary means of sustenance inside sites of displacement is relief provided mainly by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or the International Organization for Migration (IOM). However, a more informal circulation of labor, credit, and commodities coexists with the formal humanitarian presence. Black markets and illegal economic activities are also not uncommon inside these sites of displacement. The study draws from extensive fieldwork over multiple years and involving interviews and site visits with multiple stakeholders across multiple settlements, surrounding areas near settlements, spaces where people congregate such as markets, tea stalls, border areas, and other venues. Interviews were conducted with refugees, local journalists, humanitarian agencies including the UN system, NGOs at the local and national levels, law enforcement and government officials. I also conducted interviews with survivors of trafficking, Rohingya volunteers who work in the NGOs and humanitarian agencies including the UN system, law enforcement, Rohingya photographers, block leaders and other leaders of the community among others.

The Loss of Intangible Cultural Heritage and its Impact on the Identity of the Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

Mohammad Bulbul Ashraf Siddiqi (North South University, Warwick University)

Cultural heritage (both tangible and intangible) is an essential part of a community. Intangible cultural heritage is embedded within the lifestyle of the people of a community. It serves as the symbol of identity resembling the expression of the ways of living of a community. This is also termed a cultural legacy inherited from the previous generation by learning. However, the refugees living in a different socio-cultural context may have a different perspective as they live in threat of losing much of their cultural heritage due to unfavourable environments and living conditions in refugee camps. Examining the case of the Rohingya refugees in Bangladeshi refugee camps, the present paper aims to explore the perceived loss of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) practices and related identity crises among Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and address the gap in their cultural heritage participation, safeguarding to recommend ways to activate the potential of ICH. With a mixed-method approach, this study followed qualitative in-depth interviews to collect data from 30 individuals and conducted a quantitative survey among 400 individuals using the Kobo toolbox. Both in-depth and survey data collection was carried out by the selected Rohingya youths from the refugee camps using a participatory approach. Findings from qualitative and quantitative data show that the Rohingya community have few opportunities to practice their intangible cultural heritages in camps, which has negatively impacted their identity, especially among the younger generation who do not have any memories or grounding in their cultural heritages.

Understanding The Boundaries of Local Humanitarianism at Refugee Reception Sites: The Acehese and the Rohingya in 2023

Mutiara Pertiwi (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta)

This qualitative study examines the Rohingya asylum crisis on the northern shore of Indonesia's Aceh by the end of 2023. Over the course of several waves, hundreds of Rohingya refugees arrived on Aceh's shores by boat. Unlike the traditionally displayed hospitality and empathy toward asylum seekers, a local group was filmed harassing the incoming Rohingya, compelling them to return to the sea. Additionally, a group of young university students also harassed and repelled the Rohingya group, who sought refuge in a local village. The situation was further exacerbated by the dissemination of hate crimes against the Rohingya on social media, leading to widespread distrust and misinformation about this persecuted group. This event was an anomaly in Acehese history as, almost a decade earlier, the Acehese local community had received international commendations for showing compassion to strangers in need of protection, particularly when a group of fishermen undertook a spontaneous rescue mission for the Rohingya at sea, despite opposition from national border authorities. However, it seems that this spirit of humanitarianism did not endure. Some analysts argue that a series of incidents against the Rohingya at the end of the year signalled a shift in the Acehese perspective. However, I find this perspective problematic as it assumes that humanitarianism was inherent and unconditional in Acehese society. In my observation, humanitarianism requires specific social factors to manifest and function effectively. Its realization is not impervious to power struggles. Just as in Aceh, during the previous year, local humanitarianism, rooted in cultural or ancestral authorities, was curtailed and constrained by formal political authorities. The incidents demonstrated that the barriers to humanitarianism were much stronger than the motivating factors. A better understanding of these factors will help create analytical discussions that can combat misinformation and reduce the likelihood of a similar crisis in the future.

Navigating Statelessness and Gendered Persecution: The Multifaceted Identity Crises of Rohingya Women

Roshni Sharma (St. Joseph's University)

Gender shapes the countenance of displacement in ways unknown to women themselves. The Rohingya women, an ethnic minority predominantly residing in Myanmar's Rakhine State, face a multifaceted identity crisis exacerbated by prolonged persecution, statelessness, and displacement. This paper examines the complex layers of identity crises experienced by Rohingya women through the lenses of ethnicity, gender, and statelessness. Drawing on qualitative interviews and participatory observations, this research highlights the dual challenges of invisibility and survival that characterize their existence in metropolitan settings, shedding light on the institutional barriers and social prejudices in the southern state of India, namely, Karnataka. It explores how systemic discrimination, gender-based violence, and forced migration impact their social, cultural, and personal identities. Firstly, the ethnic identity crisis arises from the Myanmar government's refusal to recognize the Rohingya as citizens, labelling them "Bengalis" and stripping them of fundamental rights. This denial of citizenship not only renders Rohingya women stateless but also subjects them to widespread human rights abuses, including restrictions on movement, access to education, and healthcare. Secondly, the gender identity crisis is intensified by both external and internal patriarchal structures. Externally, Rohingya women endure gender based violence from security forces and within refugee camps. Internally, traditional gender roles and expectations limit their autonomy and opportunities, compounding their vulnerability and marginalization. Thirdly, the displacement identity crisis emerges as Rohingya women navigate life in refugee camps in Bangladesh and other countries. The loss of homeland, community, and cultural continuity creates a dissonance between their past identities and their current realities. In the camps, they face dire living conditions, inadequate legal protection, and limited prospects for the future, which further erodes their sense of self and belonging. This abstract underscore the need for a comprehensive approach to address the identity crises of Rohingya women, advocating for legal recognition, protection against gender-based violence, and socio-economic empowerment. The findings reveal that refugee women navigate complex socio-political landscapes, often grappling with trauma, discrimination, and limited access to resources. However, their stories also illuminate their strategies for survival and empowerment. By highlighting their resilience and agency, this paper aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the Rohingya women's plight and the urgent need for international intervention and support.

Refugee Law in Bangladesh: Categories and Boundaries among Rohingya

Valentina Grillo (University of Vienna)

The present contribution will unfold legal circumstances that enforced or alleviated the condition of exclusion for Rohingyas in Bangladesh. It will highlight the most relevant arguments of the debate around asylum law in Asia and Bangladesh in order to demonstrate that different approaches may be actually implemented to provide protection to refugees in Asia. Does the absence of asylum law in Bangladesh – which has not signed the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees – enhance the condition of social exclusion for refugees in the country? By outlining the decisions of numerous Asian countries of not signing the Geneva Refugee Convention, this presentation will shed light on different perspectives to protect refugees. In relation to the specific case of Bangladesh, then, it will connect the national legal system of the country to the etic notions that I encountered during my one-year fieldwork in Rohingya camps in Bangladesh. After introducing the motives of the Asian exceptionalism, which has led the majority of Asian countries not to sign the 1951 Geneva Convention Related to the Status of Refugees, and a general presentation of the legal situation in the continent, the national profile of Bangladesh will be delineated. Both the instruments of international law and treaties that the country has signed are presented, as well as national laws and a court decision will

be referred to show the way in which some refugee law principles are respected in the country. Ultimately, the emic categories used in the humanitarian response and then among Rohingyas will be explained. Legal notions reveal a lot about the context of protection and migration policies, whereas emic and etic names showcase much more, in that they offer new insights to the different Rohingya migration waves and migration policies.

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‘Soft strategies of resistance’: Refugee-led movements and women’s organising
 Tamara Megaw (University of Sydney)

Refugee women are often represented by development actors in binary positions as either sedentary/passive and innocent/deserving of humanitarian assistance, versus those who are threatening or unruly (Hyndman, 2011). Many non-governmental organisations unintentionally perpetuate the concept of women as always weak and vulnerable - neglecting the complex power relations which women engage in (Lokot, 2018). Refugee leaders’ and women’s organisations’ activism is even represented as problematic and illegitimate by some humanitarian actors, who question the legitimacy and capacity of refugees (Olivius, 2014). This panel challenges these notions with alternative narratives from refugee women, which show there is incredible strength and resilience demonstrated through surviving forced displacement and resisting oppression. Alternative narratives describe the contours of transformative renegotiations of gender dynamics in ways that reveal how refugee and host strategies within the context of daily struggles seek to emplace rather than displace (Subulwa, 2016). Experiences of displacement, living in protracted transit and resettlement significantly alters and challenges traditional understanding of gender roles and relationships. At a personal level, refugee women express the tensions between their personal aspirations, roles as wives and mothers, community responsibilities, and complex interactions with humanitarian actors. Women enact their agency individually and collectively to maximise their access to information, resources and support services. In the creation of safer women-only spaces, members provide each other language and livelihood skills development, social connection, and leadership opportunities. These soft empowerment approaches are effective in building the confidence of women in resisting oppression and supporting their wellbeing. At a structural level, refugee collectives are required to engage with bureaucratic procedures and institutions not designed for them to gain legitimacy in the eyes of the state, while advocating for fulfillment of their human rights. This panel will feature four speakers and then joint discussion on common themes of women’s empowerment, refugee leadership and community building in cities. Sajeda Bahadurmia is the founder of the Australian Rohingya Women’s Development Organisation (ARWDO), and will provide insights from her lived experience and challenges faced as a community leader and advocate for the Rohingya people. Dr Zoe Bell’s contribution to the panel draws on participatory action research with Sajeda and other members of the Rohingya community in Sydney around the formation of ARWDO. Zoe’s paper considers how community building and empowerment creates liveable spaces in contexts of oppression. Diah Tricesaria will share research based in Indonesia about safe spaces created by and for refugee women to resist structural violence, while replicating and preserving the hierarchy of the host society during protracted transit. Tamara Megaw’s paper elaborates on women-led refugee spaces with the case of Sisterhood centre, empowering women through education and peer support activities, despite their difficult living conditions in Indonesia.

Perspectives from the founder of Australian Rohingya Women’s Development Organisation
 Sajeda Bahadurmia (*Australian Rohingya Women’s Development Organisation*)

Sajeda Bahadurmia is an award-winning community leader from the Rohingya community in Sydney, Australia. Sajeda is a stateless refugee and came to Australia by boat in 2013 with her husband and children. Sajeda has lived as a stateless person in Myanmar, as a refugee

journeying by informal migration routes through Southeast Asia, and as a stateless person with temporary refugee status in Australia. Despite the punitive policies restricting her, Sajeda was empowered upon arrival in Australia, learning how to speak English and how to drive. Sajeda is a natural born leader and being in Australia has given her the opportunity to use her natural talents to support her community, particularly women and children, whose needs had been overlooked. In 2021, Sajeda founded the Australian Rohingya Women's Development Organisation. The Australian Rohingya Women's Development Organisation (ARDWO) is a not-for-profit charity whose mission is to empower Rohingya women and children. ARWDO's purpose is to support and empower Rohingya women and children. ARWDO works for the Rohingya community and works for the fulfillment of human rights, gender equality and independence. The women of ARWDO are passionate about addressing systemic inequalities, poverty, and discrimination. ARWDO does this using 'soft' approaches focusing on skill development and social connection to generate women's empowerment. These soft approaches also help to address and support women and children experiencing violence in the home. Sajeda's lived experience as a Rohingya woman, mother, daughter, refugee, stateless person, and community leader is her contribution to the 'Soft strategies of resistance': Refugee-led movements and women's organising panel. Sajeda speaks about the soft approaches used by ARWDO and their effectiveness in community building and empowerment. Sajeda provides valuable insights into the challenges imposed on the Rohingya community in Australia and around the world, and the internal difficulties compounded by decades of persecution and oppression.

Participatory action research and community building: working with the Rohingya community in Sydney, Australia

Zoe Bell (University of New South Wales)

The forced displacement and ongoing attempted genocide of the Rohingya in Myanmar is one of the largest and most significant issues relating to forced migration in the Asia Pacific region. The Myanmar government stripped the Rohingya of citizenship in 1982 resulting in the denial of human rights and identity documents. The lack of identity documents means that people fleeing violence are forced into informal migration channels, reliant on people smuggling, high-risk modes of travel and inhospitable conditions. One of these modes of travelling by boat. For those who come across the seas to Australia they are met with punitive treatment in the form of mandatory indefinite detention and temporary refugee protection. In Australia, Rohingya have been resettling since the early 1990s with peak periods of forced migration caused by episodic violence. Of the estimated 5,000 Rohingya living in Australia, most remain stateless with bureaucratic and legislative barriers to citizenship. The continuation of statelessness coupled with prolonged temporary protection for those who arrived by boat, has left many in the Rohingya community in a liminal state. Although refugee protection is provided in Australia, barriers to employment, education, housing, family reunification, mental health and trauma recovery, and future focused activities have challenged people's ability to make a new home for themselves. For Rohingya women, they have the additional challenge of restrictive patriarchal gender roles. In some families this results in violence and abuse. While in others, the responsibility of children and maintaining the home means they have limited access to life outside and are socially isolated. The author considered the lived experience of statelessness and temporary refugee protection in a participatory action research project with the Rohingya community. The research had several significant findings relating to mental health, identity, liminality, family, and anti-oppressive interventions. These interventions include the formation of the Australian Rohingya Women's Development Organisation (ARWDO) and empowerment and community building activities. Zoe has supported the formation of ARWDO and provides operational assistance to the organisation. Zoe's contribution to the 'Soft strategies of resistance': Refugee-led movements and women's organising panel, draws on her research and experience of working with ARWDO, and

considers how community building and empowerment creates liveable spaces in contexts of oppression.

Refugee Women in Protracted Transit: Surviving Indonesia and Coping with Structural Violence

Anak Agung Istri Diah Tricesaria (Monash University)

Refugee women and children are traditionally categorised as vulnerable groups in the international protection regime for refugees. However, previous scholarly works (Missbach and Cameron 2022; Masardi 2021; Sampson et al. 2016; Fiske 2020) on the experience of refugee women in Indonesia have shown that while the displacement poses a challenge to refugee women to perform their socially constructed gender role, refugee women also gain opportunities to build their confidence and practise their agency. This study aims to contribute to this narrative by discussing refugee women's experience surviving Indonesia while facing structural violence manifested through the prohibition of working during their protracted transit. The study draws upon the empirical data collected through a six-month feminist ethnographic fieldwork in Jakarta, Indonesia. Specifically, this study will look at the collective experience of refugee women in facing structural violence, which led to the institutionalisation of the collective spaces as a non-profit organisation. By building upon Acker's conceptualisation of "inequality regimes", in which the stereotype of class, gender and ethnicity is being reproduced into the practice of organization even when its purpose is to resist such stereotype and connect it to the development practice through refugee women empowerment programming, this study argues that while the ability of refugee women to build a collective safe space is an act of resistance against structural violence, the institutionalisation of the collective spaces replicates and preserves the hierarchy of their host society during protracted transit where 'men possess greater wealth and political influence than women' (Amemiya et al. 2023). Rather than assessing this as a downfall, this study evaluates it as a rationalised survival strategy and exemplifies the ability of refugee women to exercise their agency by negotiating their gendered role that often affects the type of 'livelihood opportunities' to gain support from their host society and therefore, providing refugee women access to alternative income generating activities.

Women's leadership and empowerment in community-based programs for refugees: the Sisterhood in Jakarta

Tamara Megaw (University of Sydney)

Many refugees who intended to transit only a short time in Indonesia are now facing an indefinite wait and barriers to accessing their rights due to restrictive Immigration policies. While the general refugee population suffers ongoing poverty and exclusion from Indonesian society, women refugees face even higher levels of discrimination, violence and social isolation (Women's Refugee Commission, 2016). Women refugees may also be unable to access some of the services or institutions that offer protection to host community women. However, there is a growing network of civil society and refugee-led organisations committed to providing community based protection. Sisterhood is a refugee-led community space in Jakarta founded in 2018 to provide support to women refugees and their families. The Sisterhood's mission is to "unite women from all faiths and backgrounds, in a safe space, to promote the rights, well-being and leadership of refugee women survivors in Indonesia". Unlike other learning centres or advocacy organisations united by a particular ethnicity, Sisterhood brings together women from multiple nationalities and religions – united by their identity as women and similar gendered protection risks they face. This is a small-scale qualitative study, based on the author's research while volunteering at Sisterhood in 2023, providing training as part of their 'Power of Sisterhood' program. This research involved interviews with managers at Sisterhood, 'Sisters in Justice' participants and a broader range of refugee protection stakeholders in Indonesia. The paper explores

how women refugees engage in leadership and advocacy to fulfil their human rights in Indonesia. The author illustrates the challenges and opportunities Sisterhood centre faces in community organising and providing support services for refugee women. The author also analyses how Sisterhood's work is informed by an intersectional feminist approach to address disadvantages experienced by members due to multiple intersecting and overlapping forms of social difference (Keddie et al, 2022) - such as refugeeeness, nationality, race, and gender. This shows the grounding of intersectionality in Sisterhood's practices, well beyond and outside academic discourse. The research found that gender norms and roles have been transformed by refugee women's participation in Sisterhood activities such as the 'Power of Sisterhood' program and other trainings. Women reported new perception of their rights and abilities, and feeling more confidence to take up leadership roles, which may have lasting effect on their lives. While acknowledging the difficult situation refugee women are in, this case demonstrates how women's engagement in mutual support and solidarity together with their network of allies, can contribute to gender transformative outcomes.